

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

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SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1883.

WITH TWO SUPPLEMENTS SIXPENCE.
By Post, 6½d.



SURGEON-GENERAL W. G. HUNTER, M.D.,
GOVERNMENT MEDICAL ADVISER IN EGYPT.



MR. JOHN MARSHALL, F.R.S.,
NEW PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.



CHIEF'S HOUSE TAMATAVE.

VIEW OF TAMATAVE, MADAGASCAR.

MARRIAGES.

On the 13th ult., at St. David's, Austin, Texas, by the Rev. Mr. Lee, S. W. Lindsey, eldest son of the late Major R. C. Lindsey, Bengal Staff Corps, to Eliza T. Fulton, daughter of T. Fulton, C.E., of Oakfield, Duval, Texas.

On the 21st inst., at St. Saviour's, Paddington, by the Rev. Marshall Tweddell, M.A., Vicar, John Early Danks, of 24, Castellain-road, Maida-hill, to Emily, elder daughter of Thomas Blake, of the Grange, Gravesend.

DEATH.

At Stranton, on the 18th inst., Sir Thomas Milles Riddell, Bart., of Sunart, &c., in the 61st year of his age.

* * * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUG. 4.

SUNDAY, JULY 29.	
Tenth Sunday after Trinity.	Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m.; 3 p.m., Rev. Canon Rowsell.
Morning Lessons: I. Kings xii; Acts xxviii. 1-17. Evening Lessons: I. Kings xiii, or xvii.; Matt. xv. 1-21.	St. James's, noon.
St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m.; 3.15 p.m., Rev. Canon Gregory; 7 p.m., Rev. R. T. Whittington.	Whitehall, 11 a.m., Rev. W. F. Erskine Knollys; 3 p.m., Rev. Francis Garden, Sub-Dean.
MONDAY, JULY 30.	
Royal Portsmouth Corinthian Yacht Club Regatta.	Savoy, 11.30 a.m., the Rev. Blomfield Jackson; 7 p.m., Rev. A. L. Peile.
TUESDAY, JULY 31.	
British Medical Association, annual meeting at Liverpool (four days).	Archæological Institute, annual meeting at Lewes: reception, noon, address by the President, Earl of Chichester.
Plymouth Annual Yacht Club Regatta.	
Goodwood Races.	
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 1.	
Lammas Day.	Royal Western Yacht Club of England Regatta, Plymouth.
Inland Parcel Post System begins.	Norton and East Derbyshire Agricultural Society Show, Chesterfield.
Botanic Society, promenade.	Bedford Regatta.
Grand National Archery Meeting, Cheltenham (three days).	
THURSDAY, AUG. 2.	
Goodwood Races: Cup Day.	Toxophilite Society, extra target.
Port of Plymouth Royal Regatta.	
FRIDAY, AUG. 3.	
New moon, 1.26 a.m.	Archæological Institute at Lewes, annual meeting of members.
Chester Regatta.	
SATURDAY, AUG. 4.	
Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours closes.	Barnes and Mortlake Regatta.

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.
Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W. Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF					THERMOM.		WIND.		General Direction.	Miles. 24 hours.	In. 24 hours.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Maximum, read at 10 a.m.	Minimum, read at 10 p.m.					
July 15	30.150	52.7	43.9	74	6	61.8	48.3	WNW.	NNW.		200	0.115
16	30.131	55.2	45.8	73	10	62.7	44.0	W.			216	0.005
17	30.093	57.3	48.9	75	8	64.6	54.8	WSW.			308	0.005
18	29.890	56.8	45.5	68	9	64.5	48.8	WNW.			170	0.000
19	29.741	56.4	46.1	70	8	66.4	48.6	WNW.	WSW.		91	0.000
20	29.664	57.4	52.8	86	10	64.9	47.7	W. SE. SSW.			131	0.285
21	29.574	54.3	47.7	80	8	61.6	62.3	WSW.			270	0.155

* Rain and hail.

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten o'clock a.m.:-

Barometer (in inches) corrected	29.834	30.123	30.023	29.924	29.759	29.722	29.543
Temperature of Air	56.8	56.4	60.0	59.3	58.8	63.8	59.0
Temperature of Evaporation	56.8	56.4	60.0	59.3	58.8	63.8	59.0
Direction of Wind	WNW.	W.	W.	NNW.	WNW.	SSW.	SW.

GOODWOOD RACES.—GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS.
SATURDAY, JULY 28, and MONDAY, JULY 30, SPECIAL FAST TRAINS FROM VICTORIA, for Arundel, Littlehampton, Bognor, Drayton, Chichester, Havant (for Havling Island), and Portsmouth (for Southsea and the Isle of Wight).
SPECIAL TRAINS, for SERVANTS, HORSES, and CARRIAGES only, will leave VICTORIA at 7.50 a.m., and 6.30 p.m., on Saturday, July 28; and 6.45 a.m., 7.50 a.m., and 6.30 p.m., on Monday, July 30.
Horses and Carriages for the above Stations will not be conveyed by any other Trains from Victoria on these days.

ON ALL FOUR DAYS OF THE RACES
A SPECIAL TRAIN (1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class) will leave Kensington, 7.10 a.m.; Victoria, 7.30 a.m.; London Bridge, 7.55 a.m.
A SPECIAL EXPRESS-TRAIN (1st and 2nd Class) will leave Kensington, 8.45 a.m.; Victoria, 9.0 a.m.; and London Bridge, 9.5 a.m. Return Fares, 2s. and 2s. 6d.
AN EXTRA SPECIAL EXPRESS-TRAIN (1st Class only) will leave Victoria, 9.4 a.m. Return Fare, 3s.
FORTNIGHTLY TICKETS for the Goodwood, Brighton, and Lewes Race Meetings.—First-Class Tickets (not transferable), available from Saturday, July 28, to Saturday, Aug. 11, inclusive.—Price FIVE POUNDS.
TICKETS for the Special Trains, also the Fortnightly Tickets, may be obtained previously at the London Bridge and Victoria Stations; also at the West-End General Offices, 21 Regent-circus, Piccadilly; and 8, Grand Hotel-buildings, Trafalgar-square, which Offices will remain open till Ten p.m. on July 27, 28, 30, and 31; and Aug. 1, 2, 3, and 4.
(By order) J. P. KNIGHT, General Manager.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.—SCOTLAND.—The Summer Service of Trains to Scotland by the MIDLAND ROUTE will be in operation from July 23 to Oct. 12, inclusive (Sundays excepted). The HIGHLAND EXPRESS will leave St. Pancras for Edinburgh, Perth, Inverness, &c., at 8.0 p.m.; and the corresponding Up train will leave Perth at 7.55, Greenock at 8.50, Glasgow at 10.10, and Edinburgh at 10.30 p.m., arriving at St. Pancras at 8.30 a.m.
The Service of Express-Trains from London (St. Pancras) to Scotland from July 23 will be as follows:—

DOWN TRAINS.—WEEKDAYS.

		a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
LONDON (St. Pancras) ..	dep.	6.15	10.35	8.0	9.15	3.15
Greenock ..	art.	6.56	9.40	8.12	9.12	3.12
Glasgow (St. Enoch) ..		6.56	9.40	8.12	9.12	3.12
Edinburgh (Waverley) ..		6.56	9.40	8.12	9.12	3.12
Perth ..		6.56	9.40	8.12	9.12	3.12
Aberdeen ..		6.56	9.40	8.12	9.12	3.12
INVERNESS ..		6.56	9.40	8.12	9.12	3.12

A.—The Train leaving St. Pancras at 10.35 a.m. on Saturdays has no connection with Inverness on Sunday mornings. B.—The Train leaving St. Pancras at 8.15 on Saturday nights has no connection with Greenock or Trains north of Edinburgh on Sunday mornings.

C.—Pullman Sleeping Car from St. Pancras to Edinburgh and Perth. D.—Pullman Drawing-room Car from St. Pancras to Edinburgh and Glasgow. E.—Pullman Sleeping Cars from St. Pancras to Edinburgh and Glasgow daily, also to Greenock, except on Saturday nights.

The Pullman Cars are well ventilated, fitted with Lavatory, &c., and accompanied by a Special Attendant. Charge for seat in Drawing-Room Car 5s., and for Berth in Sleeping-Car 8s., in addition to the first-class fare.

The Evening Express leaving London at 9.15 p.m. reaches Greenock in time to enable passengers to join the Columbia or Iona steamers for the Highlands. A through carriage is run from London to Greenock by this train, also by the 10.35 a.m., from St. Pancras.

For Particulars of Up Train Service from Scotland to London see Time Tables issued by the Company.
Derby, July, 1883. JOHN NOBLE, General Manager, Midland Railway.

GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY.—SEASIDE.—The SUMMER SERVICE OF FAST TRAINS are now running to YARMOUTH, Lowestoft, Clacton-on-Sea, Walton-on-the-Naze, Harwich, Dovercourt, Aldeburgh, Felixstowe, Southwold, Hunstanton, and Cromer.

TOURIST FORTNIGHTLY and FRIDAY or SATURDAY to TUESDAY (First, Second, and Third Class) TICKETS are issued by all Trains to the above-named Stations at reduced fares.

TOURIST TICKETS, available up to Dec. 31, 1883, are also issued from London (Liverpool-street) to Filey, Scarborough, Whitby, and the principal Tourist Stations in Scotland.
For full particulars see bills.
London, July, 1883. WILLIAM BIRT, General Manager.

HAVRE RACES.—SUNDAY, 29, MONDAY, 30, JULY.
1st race, Government Prize, 1000f.
2nd .. Stakes of the Société d'Encouragement, 5000f.
3rd .. Railway Stakes, 2000f.
4th .. City of Havre Stakes, Handicap, 3000f.
5th .. Second Prize Société d'Encouragement, 3000f.

SECOND DAY.

1st race, Stakes of the Department, Trotting, 1500f.
2nd race, La Hève, Military Steeplechase.
3rd .. Prix François I., Hurdle-race, Object of art.
4th .. Prix du Hoc, Trotting-race, 1000f.
5th .. Prix des Phares, Trotting in harness, 1000f.
6th .. Prix de l'Eure, Military Steeplechase, Three Prizes.

M. A. POCHET, President of the Committee.

LAKE OF LUCERNE.—Important Notice.—Travellers
desirous of varying their journey by a trip on the Lake between Lucerne and Fribourg can conveniently do so, arriving in time to take the trains at Fribourg or Lucerne, as the steamers correspond. A voyage on this magnificent Lake affords the greatest pleasure, and a beneficial change after a fatiguing railway journey. The large Saloon Steamers start at frequent intervals. Fare, 3.50. First-class Buffet. Prospectuses at the Hotels.

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS, PICCADILLY, W.—The SIXTY-FIFTH EXHIBITION, which includes a Loan Collection of the Works of the late Vice-President, W. L. Litch, will CLOSE AUG. 6. Admission, from Ten to Six, 1s. Illustrated Catalogue, 1s. Will be Open in the Evening, from Seven to Ten, from July 30 to Aug. 6. Admission, 6d.

THE VALE OF TEARS.—DORE'S Last Great PICTURE, completed a few days before he died, NOW on VIEW at the DORE GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street, with his other great pictures. Ten to Six Daily. 1s.

TINWORTH EXHIBITION IS NOW OPEN.
Upwards of One Hundred subjects from the Bible, in Terra-Cotta and Donlon Ware, including "The Release of Barabbas," "Preparing for the Crucifixion," "Christ's Entry into Jerusalem," and "Going to Calvary."
TINWORTH EXHIBITION, ART GALLERIES, 9, Conduit-street, Regent-street, W. Open from Ten till Six. Admission, 1s.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, PICCADILLY.
The new and magnificent entrance from Piccadilly is now open.—The world-famed **MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS,** the oldest established and most popular entertainment in the world. EVERY NIGHT, at EIGHT. MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY, at THREE and EIGHT. All the year round. GREAT AND GLORIOUS SUCCESS OF THE NEW PROGRAMME. All the new songs received with unbounded enthusiasm. Enormous success of the Grand Military Sketch, THE CHARLESTOWN BLUES. Mr. G. W. MOORE. Tickets & Places can be secured at Austin's Office, St. James's Hall, Piccadilly. No fees.

NATIONAL PANORAMA, York-street, Westminster (opposite St. James's Park Station).—PANORAMA of the BATTLE of TEL-EL-KEBIR, by the celebrated Painter Olivier Picot. OPEN DAILY, Nine a.m. to Eight p.m. Admission, 1s.; Fridays, 2s. 6d.

INDEX TO VOL. EIGHTY-TWO.

A new Index, consisting of Sixteen Pages, price Fourpence, is in course of preparation, and will contain a very complete Analysis of the contents of the volume. We recommend our subscribers to delay binding their volumes till it appears, on Aug. 11, and to order it early from their Newsagents. But persons who do not feel disposed to wait so long can have the Titlepage and Index to Engravings GRATIS on application to any Newsagent; or at the Office, 198, Strand.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1883.

The appointment of M. Waddington, an Englishman by extraction, to succeed M. Tissot as French Ambassador to this country is an event of great significance. That experienced statesman and diplomatist, who was the chief representative of his country at the Berlin Congress, has caused it to be made known that his selection for this post was meant by the Government of the Republic as a token of their desire to promote a mutual spirit of conciliation, concession, and compromise; and there is every reason to hope that his Excellency's personal predilections, well-known discretion, and intimate knowledge of public men on this side the Channel, will help to bring about that desirable object, or, as he himself says, "cast oil on the troubled waters." It is remarkable that the new Ambassador believes there is only one serious question at issue between us—viz., that of the Suez Canal. He has nothing to say relative to the Tonquin imbroglio, and his reserve on this subject may be due to a desire not to anticipate possible complications, or to a knowledge that there will be no rupture with China—the point on which we are most interested. M. Waddington, we are glad to see, makes light of the Madagascar difficulty. This he regards as having been much exaggerated. Apparently there is some satisfactory way of explaining the strange action of Admiral Pierre; and the French Government have sent their Consul at Zanzibar to Tamatave, evidently with a view either to a full inquiry into that officer's high-handed proceedings or to put a check upon his arrogance. When M. Waddington, on assuming his responsible duties, feels at liberty to say that the question need not excite further uneasiness, it may be assumed that the two Governments are already substantially in accord as to Madagascar.

The French Ambassador clearly had good reason for placing the Suez Canal as an international question in an exceptional position. Nor are the difficulties that bristle around it greatly removed by the action of our Government. Bowing to what everyone must regard as an imperative necessity, Lord Granville in the one House, and Mr. Gladstone in the other, frankly announced on Monday that the provisional agreement with the French company for the construction of a second canal had been withdrawn, with the assent of M. de Lesseps. So far, well. Ministers did wisely to avoid the serious consequences that might ensue from a rejection of the Convention. Public feeling in both countries will have time to cool down; and negotiations, if resumed at all, can be better renewed when the subject is looked at more dispassionately. But does their present failure affect the legal claims of M. de Lesseps and his friends? If not—and the law advisers of the Government unanimously declare that the monopoly holds for the entire limit of the Khedive's concession—it follows that our shipowners are, as they have heretofore been, at the mercy of the present proprietors of the Suez Canal. This is exceedingly mortifying, because the management of M. de Lesseps and his colleagues is unquestionably arbitrary and unjust, and the evils endured by those who make use of this great waterway, mostly English shipowners, will be aggravated by the withdrawal of the Convention, which enables the shareholders to take their own course in respect to a second canal, and to place British trade and interests in a worse position than heretofore.

The more delicate, we might say momentous, question as to the perfect legality of M. de Lesseps' claim to the exclusive

right of cutting through the Isthmus for canal purposes remains undecided. While our Government do not contest the right, the Opposition propose to raise a debate, if not to take a vote, on the subject. *Cui bono?* If Parliament now challenges the exclusive pretensions of the Company, how is the point to be decided? There is no umpire to appeal to. M. Waddington, amid all his conciliatory expressions, does not hesitate to say it would be a grievous mistake to suppose that the Suez Canal is regarded in France as a private commercial undertaking. The French Government would claim to have a voice in the matter—that is, there would be a direct issue between the two countries, which could only be settled in one way. It is as improbable as it would be revolting that the difference should be allowed to plunge France and England into war. Happily, there is ample leisure for the statesmen of both countries to devise a *modus vivendi* which will avert so dire a calamity.

No one who knows aught of Oriental habits, and of that wretched fatalism which in times of emergency paralyses Eastern races, will be surprised to hear of the terrible ravages of the cholera in Egypt. No precautions have been of much service—because edicts are of little avail against apathy and venality—in stopping the advance of the pestilence upon the capital. Cairo, with its dense population of nearly 400,000, has now daily to yield up hundreds of victims. The native authorities have been panic-stricken and passive; the Arabs and Turks make no effort to ward off or check the fatal disease; while the Prefect of the Police, in the face of vehement European protests, actually drove out the denizens of Boulak, an infected quarter—now to a great extent burned down—into other parts of Cairo or into barges on the Nile, where the sick and dying suffered tortures and created new germ-centres. Cordons have been wellnigh abandoned as useless, and nearly everywhere there has been a total neglect of sanitary precautions, and a lack of that common-sense and cleanliness which is the best safeguard against cholera. The return of the Khedive to Cairo may, perhaps, help to check panic, and strengthen the hands and enlarge the powers of the European military and medical authorities who are fearlessly doing their best to mitigate the dire calamity. Notwithstanding the distribution of the British troops in desert encampments, they have not escaped. Cholera has attacked some of the garrison of Cairo Citadel, and has pursued the 42nd Regiment, which has just taken up its quarters at Suez. Surgeon-General Hunter, who has been sent out from England, will have a responsible task, even with the aid of a staff of resident European doctors and the forty hospital assistants who have been dispatched from India. While the disease is daily striking down a host of victims, and the population of the plague-stricken capital are as helpless as scared children, fresh hospitals have to be opened, ambulance corps to be organised—all which might and would have been done beforehand by the British authorities, but for the heartlessness of native officials, from Sherif Pasha downwards.

In the last week of July the public are more concerned about the look of the growing crops than the progress of legislation. Considering the broken character of the weather for the last fortnight, many people will be surprised to learn that in some districts, such as Berkshire, winter-sown oats have already been cut, while, owing to the recent rains, a considerable quantity of hay has not yet been gathered in. At this critical period, experts are naturally cautious in casting the horoscope of the coming harvest. They tell us that the breadth of wheat sown is deficient, but that the quality is promising, thanks to a favourable blooming season. Ten days of sunshine would go far to harden if not to ripen the cereal crops, and subsequent fine weather would put our farmers in good spirits. Barley and oats, though in some places they have suffered severely from recent storms, are, on the whole, looking well, as also are beans and potatoes, and of course the pastures are excellent. Apparently a bountiful harvest is past praying for, but there is some reason to expect a good one. For a month to come there will be much tapping of barometers, and an anxious desire that dry east winds, with consequent sunshine, may supersede westerly breezes which come laden with rain-clouds from the Atlantic. Agriculturists, as well as tourists and the hospitable organisers of garden parties, are just now at the mercy of the weather.

Other countries have passed through the crisis which we have yet to face; but the reports as to the produce of the season are not, on the whole, brilliant. In France the yield is indifferent, though the quality is good; but much grain has yet to be gathered. Fair crops have been, or are being, cut in Southern Europe, including Italy and the Balkan regions, but not in Hungary. India has had an early and a good harvest; and America—except California, where the yield is "splendid"—will have less grain than usual to send to Europe. It will be highly gratifying if we should have to draw very moderately on the surplus produce of other countries. For many years the hopes of our farmers have been sadly deferred. We trust that favourable atmospheric influences may supervene—if they have not already begun—to banish anxiety and change hope into certainty.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

The Cholera! It is a very ugly word, graven on my mind in connection with a very darksome memory. I can remember a very sultry summer evening, in the year 1832, when I was a child, looking from the window of a nursery in North Audley-street. Right opposite was the mansion of a great nobleman. Our nurse told us that one of my Lord's woman-servants had died that morning of what she called "Cholera Morbus," and that the body would be brought out presently for burial. But there was a great mob before the door; and when the undertaker's men made their appearance, bearing an elm coffin girt all about with ropes, this mob began to screech and yell and howl, to plunge and surge, and throw stones and break windows and street lamps. A rumour had run among the many-headed that the corpse had not been properly prepared for the grave, and their cry was to have the grim receptacle of mortality opened. Even now, in my mind's eye, I can see that rope-bound shell—its bearers invisible in the serried mass of rioters—borne hither and thither, but seeming itself a sentient thing desperately trying to struggle out of the throng. A detachment of the then very New Police at length quelled the tumult; but not before there was a talk of sending for a detachment of the Guards from the Portman-street barracks.

If you will take the trouble to dip into the newspapers for this same year 1832, you will find that in England at least some astonishing strides in civilisation have been made in late years with respect to the public appreciation of the cholera. In September, '32, there was a horrible cholera riot at Manchester. Thousands of roughs paraded the streets, carrying with them the headless body of a child who, they declared, had been "murdered by the doctors in the Cholera Hospital." They had exhumed the corpse, which, in truth, for some reason never explained, had been decapitated prior to interment. The enraged populace proceeded to pull down the wall surrounding the Cholera Hospital, to force open the gates, and take away the patients, some of whom were in a state of collapse, and died during the process of removal.

1883 may again be advantageously contrasted with 1832, when it is remembered that, in the January of the year last named, the sensible people of Paisley having petitioned the Treasury to take off the duty on soap, "in consequence of the fear of cholera," the Right Hon. Thomas Spring Rice replied, "My Lords are not prepared to take the steps recommended in your said memorial."

In my own parish—the immense one of St. Pancras—which extends from the Oxford-street end of Tottenham-court to Hampstead, the authorities appear to be doing everything that is humanly possible to avert the scourge. Gullies and ventilating shafts, dust-bins, "man-holes," courts and alleys are being duly treated with carbolic acid; and the water-carts are constantly sprinkling the streets with diluted acid. Additional inspectors have been appointed, and house-to-house visitations are being made to implore the inhabitants to be cleanly. Other metropolitan parishes and provincial municipalities are taking, I doubt not, the same wise precautions. Let us not, then, be afraid of the "Cholera Morbus," but put our trust in Heaven, look to our drains and our dust-bins, and keep plenty of carbolic acid on the premises. The house that I live in is passing old, and we swear by chloride of lime. Pardon me for alluding to such homely and inelegant matters. But none of us, I take it, desire to die before our time; and in ignoring the A B C of sanitation when the Cholera is at the door, we are really guilty of constructive suicide.

Mem.: It would also be a very good thing if, between this and the end of next September, we all did our very utmost to keep our tempers. In an old medical dictionary (Dr. Parris, 1809) I find it stated that "the most commonly reputed victims of the disease (cholera) are those who are subject to a scorbutic acrimony, or those of a passionate temper. Hoffmann says that children often exhibit symptoms of cholera "owing to the vehement anger of the nurse."

I was duly impressed with the necessity of keeping one's temper in cholera time when I read in this week's *World* a paragraph in which one of "Atlas's" correspondents notes the to him apparently interesting fact that in a book of mine and in an article on the Dutch painter Peter van Laar (Il Bamboccio) he read that the studio of Nicolas Poussin "was adorned by a cast of the Venus of Milo, which, he adds, was surely unknown to the moderns till unearthed from the island of Melos by Admiral Dumont d'Urville in 1820." As a matter of strict fact, the statue in question was "unearthed" by a peasant from a niche in the buried walls of the old town of Melos, in the island of the same name, and purchased by the French Ambassador at Constantinople, the Marquis de Rivière, who presented it to Louis XVIII., who placed it in the Louvre. But what amuses me (and incites to keep my temper) is the fact that the article against which "Atlas's" tardy taunt is directed was originally published just thirty-one years ago, before I had attained the mature age of twenty-four. Genial "Atlas"! I wonder how much he knew about the Venus of Melos and Admiral Dumont d'Urville when he was twenty-four.

But, albeit anger is to be deprecated, one may be allowed to be horror-stricken even at this choleric season of the year. Appalled, I read in the report of a debate in the Peers' on Irish Fisheries, the speech of a noble Lord, in which he stated that in the course of a conversation with a fisherman on the Irish coast who had caught a large quantity of conger eels and was packing them in perforated boxes, he was told that "the eels were all going to London to be made into turtle-soup." At this their Lordships laughed loudly; but lovers of turtle will, I should say, be inclined rather to shudder than to laugh at the idea of "turtle" soup being made from conger.

It is quite true that, in addition to the ordinary and confessedly "mock" turtle (which can be made quite as well from pig's head as from calf's head), there is a recipe

for a soup called "fish turtle," concocted from ling, haddock, and codling, and in which the green fat is imitated by cod sounds stewed in spinach juice till coloured green, and then cut into neat squares. Likewise, in Cassell's "Dictionary of Cookery" I find a formula for conger-eel soup, in which the price of the conger is set down at from threepence to sixpence a pound. But that conger should be one of the ingredients in professed turtle-soup borders on the incredible. The Irish fisherman must have made a mistake; or, perhaps, he was hoaxing his Lordship.

Mem.: At the Hotel de Flandre, Brussels, where there is an excellent table d'hôte, I found, in September, 1881, that conger eel, dressed in various fashions, frequently made its appearance at dinner. The guests (principally English) did not shudder or turn pale when the conger was handed round. Indeed, the majority seemed to enjoy their conger heartily. Why is there a prejudice against it at "genteel" tables at home?

The worthy folk of Hornsey and Hendon are extremely anxious that the Corporation of London should purchase the fee simple of the unfortunate Alexandra Park at Muswell Hill, disestablish the races and trotting matches (which, they say, are nuisances), and preserve the grounds as a place of public enjoyment and recreation, for aye. The memorial of the Hornsey Local Board has been referred to the Coal, Corn, and Finance Committee of the Court of Common Council and the indefatigable Mr. J. T. Bedford thinks that he sees his way towards providing the purchase money for the park if Parliament will only consent to continue the Grain Duty for a few years longer. The tax in question is, according to Mr. Bedford, so infinitesimal in its percentage that nobody feels it; but it amounts in the aggregate to twenty-four thousand pounds a year.

We cannot have too many open spaces in and about this overgrown metropolis, and it would be an excellent thing to convert the grounds at Muswell-hill into yet another people's park. But what is to be done with the Palace, that Titanic edifice on which, and on its incinerated predecessor, so many hundred thousands of pounds have been spent, and which, although architecturally not very lovely to look upon, is substantially built, and will accommodate many thousands of spectators in its vast halls? It is to be hoped that the Alexandra Palace will not be pulled down. In the event of the property being acquired by the Corporation, the Palace might still be retained as a bazaar, a refreshment room, and a place of shelter in wet weather; while on the occasion of Bank Holidays and other popular fêtes some respectable *impresario* might be allowed to open shows and entertainments in the Palace and grounds for the amusement of the million. The people at holiday time want, and should have, much more downright mirth and jollity than are afforded by a park, where notifications of afflictive by-laws meet you at every turn. Read the Prologue to Tennyson's "Princess." The people want the fiddler and "Soldier Laddie" at their outings. Where can they dance at present? It is the discouragement by the magistracy of hilarious public amusements that incites the common people to get moodily drunk and beat their wives.

I am extremely obliged to my correspondent "W. V.," Newark, New Jersey, U.S.A., who has sent me "a full, true, and particular" version of the Harvard College ditty about the sorrows of the gentleman who wanted "fixings" in the shape of bread with "one fish ball." The song is called the "Lone Fish Ball." It is too long to be inserted in its entirety in this page; but I will send it to *Notes and Queries*, in the hope that my estimable and pleasant contemporary may be able to find room for it. My New Jersey correspondent mentions that the "Lone Fish Ball" has been set to music. Aye; and the melody, with which I have been familiar for twenty years, is a very pretty one.

Messrs. Chatto and Windus have done well in publishing in a portable octavo form the "Maclise Portrait Gallery of Illustrious Literary Characters" (the famous "Alfred Croquis" sketches, from *Fraser's Magazine*), which they produced in quarto shape some time ago. Now that Mr. Carlo Pellegrini has fairly started with his Walhalla of living celebrities, it is fitting that the younger generation should be made acquainted with the lineaments and the *faits et gestes* of the celebrities of the past. The illustrations in the new issue of the "Maclise Gallery" have been skilfully reduced, and have lost nothing of their original crispness and vivacity.

There are eighty-three individual portraits in the collection (besides the "Fraseriano" and "Regina's Maids of Honour"), and, so far as my knowledge goes, only one of the originals survives. And his name I will not cite now, for fear of blundering. Perhaps one of my correspondents will guess it for me. It is worthy of remark that the gallery contains only two actors—James Sheridan Knowles (and he was more of a playwright than a player) and John Baldwin Buckstone. And, besides Maclise himself (and his is an interpolated portrait), there are only two professional artists—Sir John Soane, the architect, and George Cruikshank. I do not forget D'Orsay; but, in art, he did not rise above the level of a clever amateur.

A tremendous controversy has been raging in the *Times* about "cramming" (hideous word and more hideous process!), in which a young gentleman who has recently left school, Mr. Walter Wren, M.A., the eminent "crammer," a leader-writer in the *Times* itself, and a multitude of outside correspondents, have been having a "high old time of it." I have not the slightest intention to take part in this *polemus*, in which Mr. Walter Wren seems to have held his own with much vigour and tenacity, but I have been equally amazed and amused by one of the outsiders' contributions to the controversy. Says this gentleman, writing to the Editor of the *Times*:—

Sir,—Some years ago my son went up for the Law Preliminary Examination. He was at a public school, and a fortnight before the time he wrote and told me that he was safe on every subject except history and

geography, of which he knew literally nothing. I wrote back to him to come home at once, and set to work with him for the last ten days, during which, with the help of back questions, diagrams, and maps, I so stuffed him that he passed easily. A month of such cramming would have insured him a high place in any examination, but his ignorance of the subjects a fortnight later would have been as dense as ever it was. I tried him shortly after he had passed, and found his mind had returned to its original vacuity on history and geography, while on the other subjects, which he had learnt in the usual way at school, he was quite at home. PATERFAMILIAS.

The cost of a public school education in England varies, I am told, between a hundred and fifty and two hundred pounds a year. At the aristocratic public schools it may considerably exceed the last-named sum. Could not just a little geography and history be thrown in for the money? But I am happy to read that it was "some years ago" that "Paterfamilias'" son came from a public school knowing "literally nothing" of history and geography. I have heard of public schools (but they were not English ones) where boys of ten and twelve were taught, not only to draw, but to model maps to scale in clay, than which teaching I can scarcely imagine anything more instructive and more entertaining. Try it, O ye who teach the ingenuous youth of England, and do not let the tiny urchins of the kindergartens have a monopoly of "modelling clay." I conscientiously believe that schoolboys would not get into one tithe of the mischief they do get into if modelling were made a systematic branch of education.

What do you think of a convict prison in which the prisoners are allowed to eat fried soil?—if they can afford to pay for those dainties. A correspondent of the *Paris Figaro* has been visiting *La Grande Citoyenne* Louise Michel in the provincial *Maison Centrale*, where she is serving a term of incarceration, and describes the ordinary dietary of the *détenues* as being that of military barracks—"des casernes." But the trifling sums which the prisoners may earn by their surplus labour are placed to their credit on the books of the prison kitchen, and according to the state of their culinary banking account they may draw such luxuries as milk, fruit, and pastry, and even a little roast meat. On the day of the correspondent's visit one of the lady convicts had "offered herself" a fried sole. Henri Rochefort (the bitter *Intransigeant* is one of the kindest hearted and most charitable of men) allows Louise Michel a small pension, which she, in turn, bestows on her aged mother; still, it is to be hoped that the *Grande Citoyenne* keeps a few francs to treat herself to a baked apple or a fried sole, now and again.

In the same number of the *Figaro*, in an article on the Comte de Chambord, I learn that, some thirty years since, it was the custom in the schools of Brittany for the boys (all born clericals and legitimists, of course) to write on the covers of their exercise-books the letters "V. H. V.," which stood equally, of course, for "Vive Henri Cinq." But the Breton schoolboys were surpassed in this ingenuity of expressing their dynastic sympathies by the audiences at the theatres of Lombardy, while under the Austrian yoke, who, at the conclusion of the performances, used to shout "Viva Verdi!" The cry was not a compliment to the gifted composer of "Il Trovatore." It stood for "Viva V. E. R. D. I.—Vittorio Emanuele Ré d'Italia."

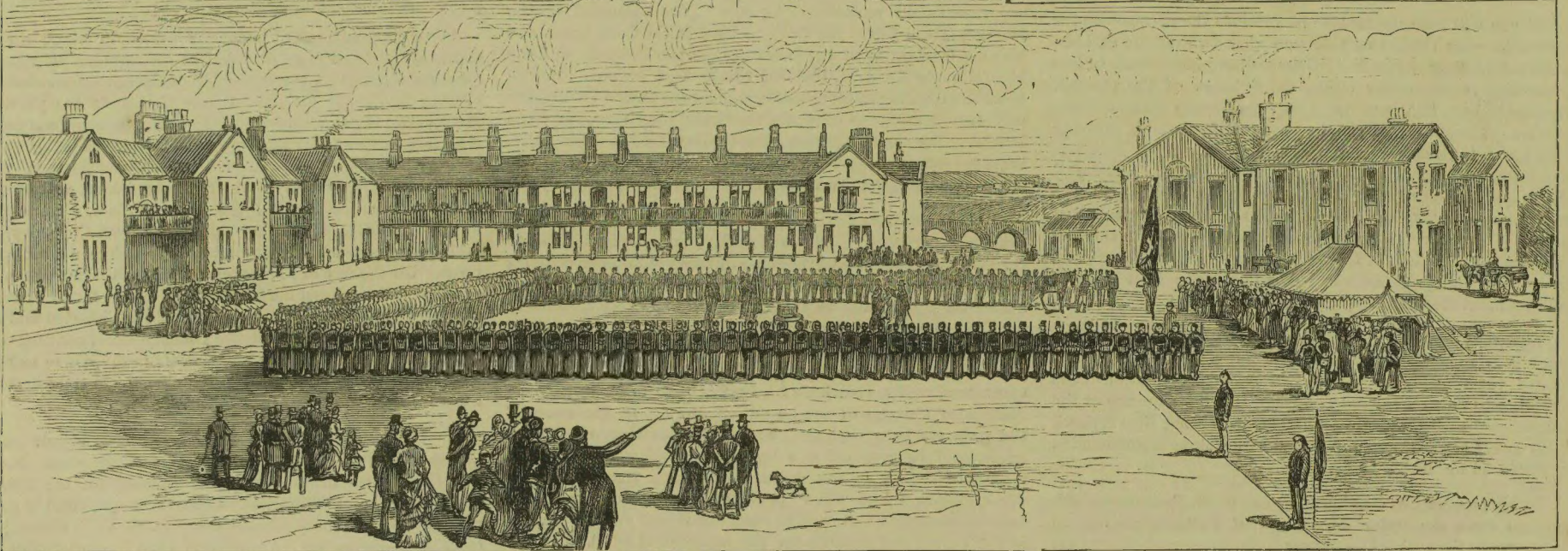
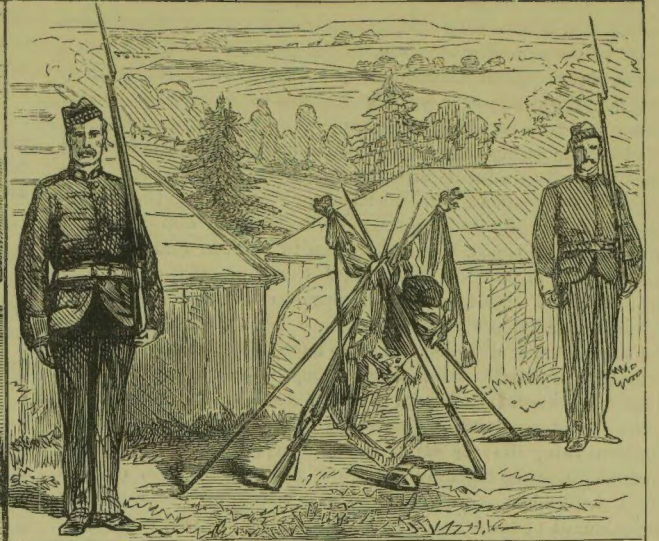
The Channel Tunnel bills have been withdrawn, and a soothing rest may come to the perturbed spirits of the contributors and friends of Mr. James Knowles, of the *Nineteenth Century* (including the Poet Laureate), who so solemnly protested against the submarine tunnel scheme. I hope that the Tunnel projects will be shelved for at least five years. By that time we may possibly alter our national mind as to the desirability or otherwise of tunnelling under the British Channel. That which is now denounced in some quarters as mischievous and unpatriotic folly may possibly, if not in five at most in twenty years, be acknowledged to be both patriotic and wise. Gas, railways, steam navigation, the penny postage, and the Suez Canal, all in their origins encountered vehement opposition. Some of these days we may be clamouring for four canals through the Isthmus of Suez, and impetuously demanding why the Great Western and South-Western railways are not provided, like the South-Eastern and the London, Chatham, and Dover, with Channel Tunnels.

A movement is on foot, under the patronage of the Lord Chancellor, of Lords Derby, Shaftesbury, Lytton, Headly, Houghton, Ronald Gower, and the Bishop of Winchester, for the presentation of a substantial testimonial to Martin Farquhar Tupper, D.C.L., F.R.S., author of "Proverbial Philosophy," who is seventy-four, and not rich in the world's goods. An influential committee, comprising the names, among others, of Professor Owen, Colonel Fred. Burnaby, Dr. Charles Mackay, and Mr. W. J. Evelyn, F.S.A., has been formed to carry out a most praiseworthy purpose. I have a splendidly illustrated copy of "Proverbial Philosophy"; but I honestly confess that I could never succeed in reading it. Its comprehension is far "beyond the likes of me." On the other hand, I read and delighted in Mr. Tupper's "Crock of Gold" when I was quite a boy; and I know that Martin Farquhar Tupper has been hard at work as the author of all kinds of books during a period of fifty-two years. One and a half million copies of the "Philosophy" have been sold in the United States without the author receiving the slightest financial benefit in return.

If a correspondent hailing from Adelaide, New South Wales, had signed his real name to his communication instead of the *nom de plume* of "Sixteen Thousand Miles Away," he would have saved me the sorrow of having once more to inflict on my readers a reference to the modern proverbial saying, "Setting the Thames," as against "temse," a sieve for sifting flour, "on fire." I can only repeat that the proverb is a modern one; that "temse" is a very old word, and that its reference to the proverbial saying is purely conjectural. When I have printed evidence before me that it was ever said of an indolent sifter of flour that he or she would never set the "temse" on fire, I will alter my opinion, and apologise for my obstinacy. Oral folklore I decline to accept. Show me printed proof in an old book of the "temse" being set on fire. G.A.S.

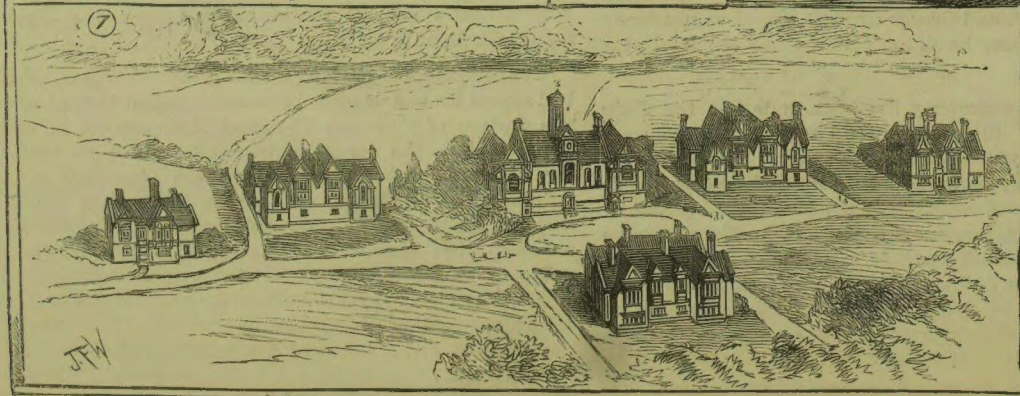
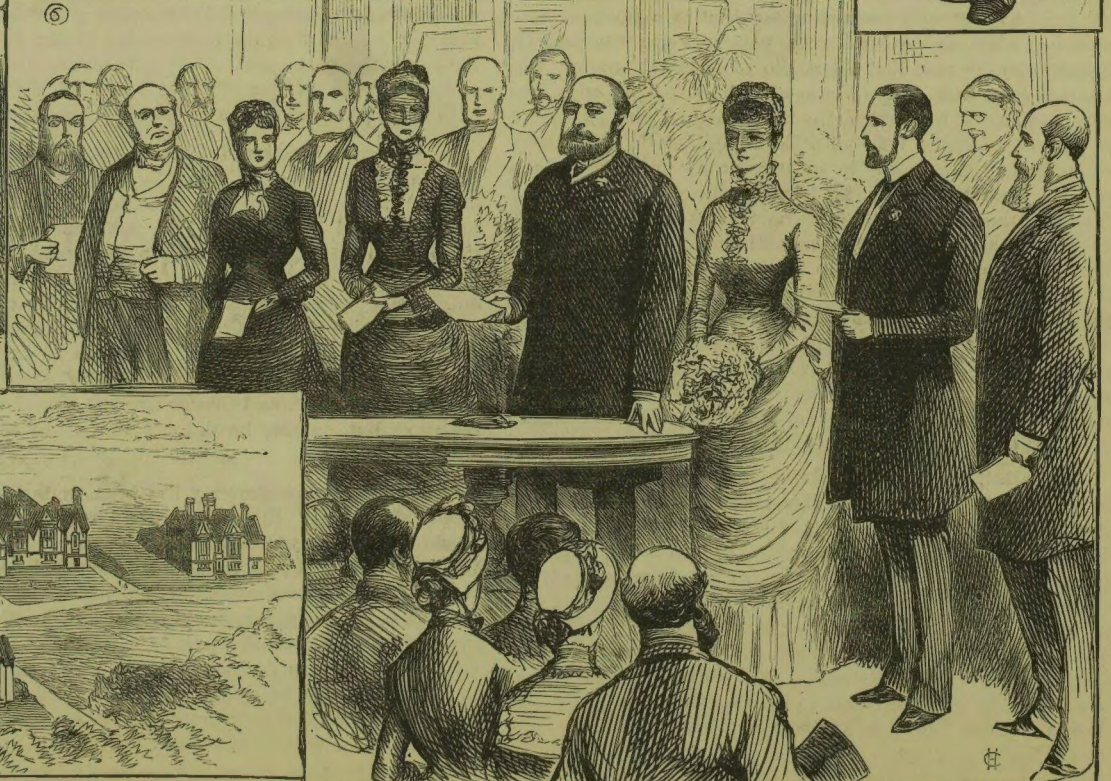
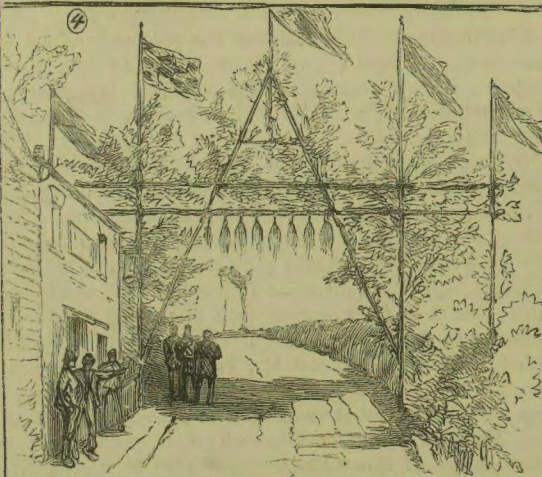
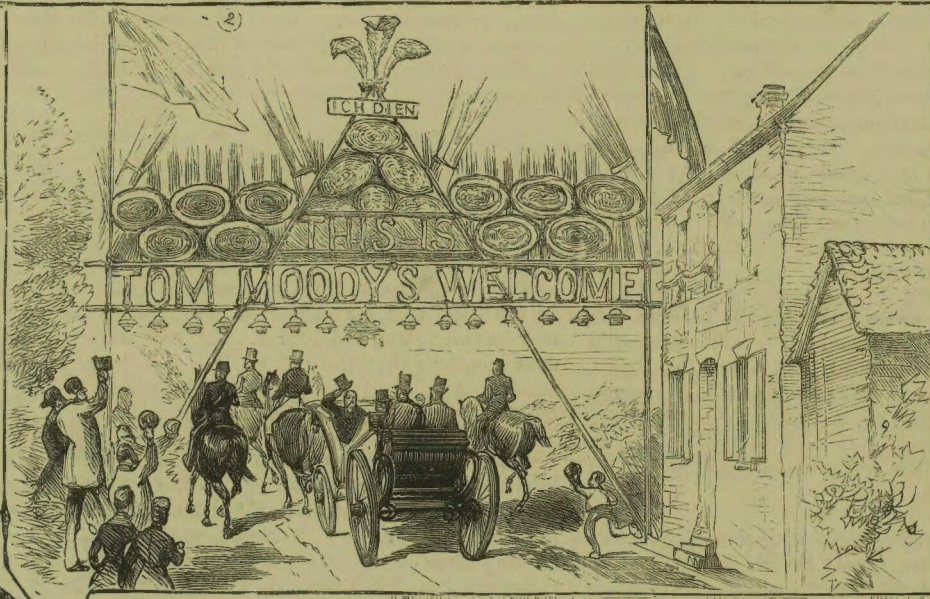
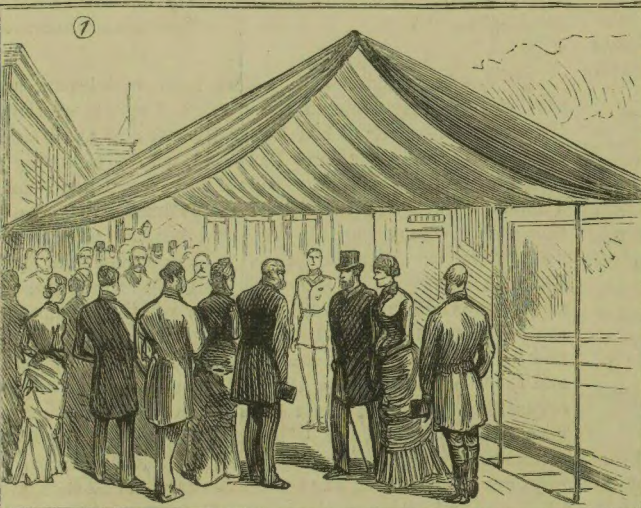
Glencorse: Encampment of 3rd Battalion Royal Scots Regiment.

Guarding the Colours.



The Marquis of Lothian Replying to her Ladyship on behalf of his Battalion.

PRESENTATION OF COLOURS TO THE 3RD BATTALION ROYAL SCOTS REGIMENT BY THE MARCHIONESS OF LOTHIAN.



1. Arrival at Swanley Station.
5. One of the Band.

2. Passing along Swanley-lane.
6. The Prince of Wales declaring the Homes open.

3. A Royal Salute (Kent County Constabulary).

4. Arch in Swanley-lane.
7. Appearance of Homes when completed.

OPENING OF THE HOMES FOR LITTLE BOYS AT SWANLEY BY THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.



1. Soirée at the Fine-Art Exhibition.

4. Arrival of his Royal Highness at the Show-yard.

8. Visit to the Wilberforce School for the Blind.

2. Benevolent Institution Offices in the Royal Agricultural Society's Show-yard.

5. The Yorkshire Club.

9. The Prince laying Foundation-stone of the York Institute of Art, Science, and Literature.

6. Masonic Procession down Foss-gate.

3. Lady Hawke's Three-year-old Heifer in Cart.

7. Arrival of the Prince at the York Institute.

10. Triumphal Arch in Micklegate.

SURGEON-GENERAL HUNTER, M.D.

In our remarks last week upon the deplorable outbreak of cholera in Egypt, it was observed that British medical officers of the Indian Government are better qualified than any other professional or scientific men to give advice to the authorities at Cairo upon the needful sanitary measures, as there is always cholera, more or less, existing in some part of India, and an official commission of inquiry has long been engaged there upon this special subject. Our Government has appointed Surgeon-General William Guyer Hunter to proceed directly to Egypt, whence he will report to the Local Government Board as to the nature of the present epidemic in Egypt and the proper course to be adopted. We give the portrait of Dr. Hunter, from a photograph by Messrs. Bourne and Shepherd. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians. Sir E. Malet, the resident British Minister, will avail himself of Surgeon-General Hunter's services in advising the Egyptian Government in this crisis. As Principal of the Grant Medical College, Bombay, and for many years physician to the Sir Jamsetjee Hospital there, Surgeon-General Hunter's experience of the cholera should be invaluable to the Egyptian Government at the present moment. In addition to this, the English officers commanding troops in Egypt, General Sir Evelyn Wood and two others, have been ordered to co-operate with the Board of Health established at Cairo. Three new hospitals are being erected, and an ambulance corps has been formed for the speedy removal of patients. The Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs stated on Monday that twelve medical officers are being selected for service in Egypt, and that forty experienced Mohammedan hospital assistants are ready to start from India for general cholera duty, if the Egyptian Government want them. But doctors and nurses, however able and energetic, cannot do much unless the authorities work with them; and the measures hitherto adopted, both at Damietta and Cairo, seem to be futile and useless, as well as cruel to the miserable native people. At Damietta they are shut out from all communication by sea or land, and deprived of needful supplies of food, by a cordon of soldiery, who fire upon every person coming outside the town; while they have only incompetent native doctors there. At Cairo, where the cholera has now broken out with great violence, the inhabitants of the suburb of Boulak have been forcibly expelled from their homes and driven to a place up the Nile, unprovided with shelter or the means of subsistence. The official statement of last Monday reports 508 deaths from cholera in Cairo and Ghizeh alone; 184 are reported from Shirbin-el-Kum and Mehallet, and hundreds of cases are occurring daily in villages from which no returns come. There have been four deaths from cholera among the British soldiers. The Khedive and his wife have gone to Cairo, in order personally to direct the relief operations.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

At the meeting of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons, on Thursday, the 12th inst., Mr. John Marshall, F.R.S., was elected to fill the office of President, which had been made vacant by the retirement of Sir Spencer Wells, Bart. Mr. Marshall, whose professional residence is in Savile-row, has been a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons since 1849, and has acquired a very high reputation by his practice as well as by his contributions to science. He holds the Professorship of Anatomy at the Royal Academy. Upon the same occasion Mr. J. Cooper Forster and Mr. W. Scovell Savory, F.R.S., were elected Vice-Presidents of the Royal College of Surgeons.

The Portrait of the new President is from a photograph by Mr. Claudet, Regent-street.

TAMATAVE, MADAGASCAR.

The bombardment and subsequent military occupation of Tamatave, the principal seaport on the east coast of Madagascar, by the French squadron under Admiral Pierre, on the 10th and 11th ult., has excited much uneasiness, on account of the sudden decease of the British Consul, Mr. Pakenham, and the apprehensions lest British subjects there should be harshly treated; so that British ships have been sent to that place in order to protect them. We present a view of Tamatave, a town of six thousand inhabitants, of whom a considerable proportion are British subjects, chiefly natives of Mauritius and the East Indies. The exports from the United Kingdom to Madagascar in 1880 amounted only to £51,066, and the exports from the island to this country to only £7557; but there is a considerable trade between Tamatave and Mauritius. According to the estimate of Mr. Proctor, Consul for Madagascar in England, the development of trade in recent years has been more remarkable on the west coast. Altogether the annual foreign trade of the island, including imports and exports, is estimated to fall little short, if at all, of a million sterling, cattle and india-rubber being the most important items in the exports. The port of Tamatave is above one hundred miles from the capital, Antananarivo, which is supposed to have about 100,000 inhabitants, and is the largest city in the island. Antananarivo has been almost rebuilt during the last twelve or fourteen years, the old timber and rush houses being nearly all replaced by much larger and more substantial ones of sundried brick and stone, constructed in European fashion. A group of Royal palaces, with lofty roofs and stone-arched verandahs, crowns the summit of the ridge on which the city is built, and hardly less conspicuous is the grand new residence of the Prime Minister. Four handsome stone memorial churches mark the spots where the Christian martyrs suffered. The climate of the capital and of the lofty plateaus of the interior of the island is far more healthy than that of the low lands, which fringe the coasts for a breadth varying on the eastern side to from 10 to 50 miles, and on the western side considerably more. The whole extent of Madagascar is 980 miles in length from north to south, with an average breadth of about 250 miles, which implies a total area of nearly four times the extent of England and Wales. Along two-thirds of its eastern side the coast is almost a straight line without any inlet; for Tamatave and Foulle Pointe, though the former affords excellent shelter for vessels, are only open roadsteads protected by coral reefs. Antongil Bay, however, on this side, is a deep and wide inlet of great capabilities, running northward about fifty miles.

In the Queen's Bench Division Mr. Justice Williams has decided that under the Married Woman's Property Act the wife's property can not be made liable for a judgment when she has not been served with the writ of summons in the action.

The earlier editions of Messrs. Longman's beautifully illustrated edition of the New Testament having been long out of print, the publishers have issued a new edition, in one handsome volume. It comprises the numerous engravings on wood after the celebrated pictures of the Old Masters, besides the pictorial border lines and vignettes of the original publication. The volume is bound in richly-ornamented cloth.

PRESENTATION OF REGIMENTAL COLOURS.

The Marchioness of Lothian, on Thursday, the 19th inst., performed the graceful ceremony of presenting a new set of colours to the 3rd Battalion of the 1st Royal Scots Regiment, on the drill-ground of the military dépôt at Glencorse, near Edinburgh. There was a large assembly of spectators, and many ladies and gentlemen, invited by the Marquis of Lothian, who is the Lieutenant-Colonel in command of this battalion, were accommodated in small marquees erected on the ground. Her Ladyship, after the offering of prayer and reading from the Bible by the Rev. Dr. Cameron Lees and Rev. Mr. Strong, stepped forward, accompanied by her daughters, Lord Charles Kerr, and Colonel Stuart, and presented the Queen's colours and the regimental colours to Lieutenant Smythe and Lieutenant Menzies. Lady Lothian, in doing so, addressed her husband and the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the 3rd Battalion, in a very spirited and appropriate little speech, referring to her father, the Duke of Buccleuch, as Colonel of the regiment; and to the long connection with it both of her own family and that of her husband. Lord Lothian replied, on behalf of his battalion, which afterwards formed column and marched past her Ladyship, bearing the colours; and she presented medals to two of the sergeants for long and meritorious service. Our Illustrations are from photographs by Mr. Alexander Ayton, Brunsfield-place, Edinburgh. In that showing the battalion in square, it should be observed that the centre figures represent Lady Lothian and her two daughters, with Lord Charles Kerr (uncle of the Marquis) on her left, and Colonel Stuart, commanding the 1st Regimental District, on the right. Lord Lothian is on the right of the Colour party addressing the regiment. The two officers behind the Colours are Colonel Grant Gordon and Major R. C. Dudgeon. The former Colours were presented to the regiment by the Duchess of Buccleuch at Dalkeith in 1855, on the occasion of its receiving from her Majesty the title of "Queen's Regiment of Light Infantry." The 3rd Battalion Royal Scots is now encamped in a park adjoining Glencorse Barracks, as shown in the Illustration.

THE LITTLE BOYS' HOME AT SWANLEY.

An Illustration was given in our last of the new buildings at Swanley Junction, on the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway, erected in connection with the Cottage Homes for orphan little boys at Farningham, in that neighbourhood, of which the foundation was laid in 1866 by the Princess of Wales. Her Royal Highness, with the Prince of Wales, attended the opening of the new establishment at Swanley on Friday week. They were received, at five in the afternoon, by the Earl of Aberdeen, chairman of the committee, the Countess of Aberdeen, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Earl Sydney, Canons Fleming, Phillips, and Smith, the Rev. Dr. Edmund, the Rev. Newman Hall, Admiral Robinson, Mr. Bompas, Q.C., and others. The Earl of Aberdeen read an address to their Royal Highnesses, to which the Prince of Wales read a suitable reply. A gold master-key was then handed to his Royal Highness, and the party was escorted over the new buildings, the door of which the Prince unlocked. Returning to the platform, the Prince of Wales unveiled a marble tablet commemorating the occasion, and then declared "the buildings opened, and for ever dedicated to orphan and fatherless boys." Prayer was offered by the Archbishop of Canterbury. The Princess of Wales then graciously received purses from a number of ladies, who filed past and left their offerings on a table. The amount thus received amounted to more than £300. Her Royal Highness afterwards distributed prizes to the boys, some of which, for "the best behaved boy, the best tempered boy, and the greatest favourite," caused much amusement. The treasurer, Mr. H. Willans, thanked their Royal Highnesses for their kind interest in the institution. The Princess of Wales planted a memorial-tree, using an ornamental spade, which was afterwards presented to her. Tea was served to the Royal party in the head master's house, and they soon afterwards drove off, amid the cheers of large numbers of people both within the grounds and outside. A guard of honour was formed from the 2nd Volunteer Battalion of the Queen's Own Royal West India Regiment, under the command of Captain Kidd.

The new buildings, of which Messrs. Spalding and Auld are the architects, are shown again in one of our Illustrations. They will afford, when completed, accommodation for 200 boys, 25 boys each in four dames' houses, 30 boys each in two assistant masters' houses, and 40 boys in the head master's house. The completed portion opened by their Royal Highnesses comprises in the first block two dames' or mothers' houses, each to provide for 25 boys of a tender age. In the second block, or head master's house, besides the rooms appropriated to the head master, there is accommodation for 40 boys and two assistant masters. In the third block on the first floor is the large school-room with class-rooms, and on the ground floor are three large workshops, to be fitted with such appliances as may be necessary to give the boys a good technical as well as a general education. The committee hope to complete their scheme as funds may be forthcoming to assist them; but their most pressing need is for the two assistant masters' houses.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AT YORK.

The visit of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to York last week, though its principal object was to attend the meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, was also notable for his performance of the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the York Institute of Art, Literature, and Science. As Grand Master of the English Freemasons, his Royal Highness officiated upon the occasion, which took place on the Wednesday, in the full pomp of that mystic Order, supported by the leading Brethren of Yorkshire. A Grand Lodge for this purpose was opened by the Prince in due form at the Guildhall at ten o'clock, and was soon joined by the Provincial Grand Lodge, under the Earl of Zetland. They formed a Masonic procession to walk on foot to Clifford-street, to the site of the intended building. There, in front of the inclosure, a temporary structure had been erected, with battlemented wall and turreted gateway, within which was a spacious pavilion, draped in red cloth. His Royal Highness was accompanied in the procession thither by the Marquis of Hamilton; the Lord Mayor of York, in his scarlet robes covering the Masonic dress; Sir Albert Woods, Garter, Director of Ceremonies, Mr. R. H. Thrupp, Assistant Director, Mr. F. Fenn, Past Grand Deacon, Mr. T. W. Tew, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire, and Brothers Whytehead and Cumberland, of York. The Prince was received, at the entrance in Clifford-street, by the Very Rev. the Dean of York, Past Grand Chaplain, and the Committee of the York Institute, having entered, and taken his seat on the dais, his Royal Highness opened the proceedings, and the Sheriff of York, Mr. J. Sykes Rymer, addressed the Prince, requesting him to lay the memorial-stone. When the block of polished red Aberdeen granite, with inscriptions on both sides, had been

lowered to its place and declared by the Prince to be well and truly laid, his Royal Highness briefly addressed the assembly, and the Dean of York offered a prayer; the Masonic hymn, "Hail, Masonry divine!" being sung by all the Brethren. Purses were then presented by a number of children in aid of the building fund. In the course of the ceremony, the architect, Mr. W. G. Penty, was presented to the Grand Master, who was thanked by the Lord Mayor of York, on the part of the citizens and Institute Committee, for his presence on the occasion.

Having returned from this high Masonic function to the Yorkshire Club, the Prince of Wales took leave of York, expressing to his host, Sir George Wombwell, and to the Lord Mayor, his great pleasure at the reception which had been given him. The train conveying his Royal Highness left York shortly before half-past twelve, and brought him to London in good time in the afternoon, enabling him, with the Princess of Wales, to go that evening to the Fête at the Fisheries Exhibition.

Our Illustrations, besides the ceremony above described, and the procession, represent the visit of his Royal Highness to the Wilberforce School for the Blind, the soirée at the Fine Art Exhibition, and the Prince's arrival, on the Tuesday, at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show, with one or two incidents there, including the particular attention bestowed on the Dowager Lady Hawke's beautiful heifer. The Prince of Wales himself won some of the highest prizes for Southdown sheep.

CITY ECHOES.

WEDNESDAY.

Palpable as for the most part has been the fact not only that business during the past few months has been quiet, but that there has been a decided tendency for profits to diminish, yet occasionally some incredulity has been expressed in quarters credited with a tolerably full knowledge of the general trade movement of the country. It is, however, probable that all doubt on the subject has been dissipated by the remarks made by the chairmen of the leading joint-stock banks and discount companies of London at the meetings of shareholders recently held. There was expressed in these a general agreement that a retrograde state of trade had obtained, and in proof of this they had merely to point to their own balance-sheets. Taking the accounts of the nine leading banks whose balance-sheets have been issued up to the time of writing—that is, excluding the London and County—the net profits show a diminution of £36,345 for the half year as compared with the corresponding period of 1882, while in the case of three discount companies the diminution has been £11,937. In the case of the joint stock banks this reduction has occurred in spite of a sensible addition to the capital in a few instances, which has by so much swelled the working resources. It will be thus seen that the reduction in the dividends that have been distributed has been absolute, and not merely relative.

My space does not permit me to enter into a minute analysis of the several bank balance-sheets, and it may be sufficient to set down one or two main points they disclose as bearing on the smaller volume of business. Thus, in the case of the discounts and advances, the banks showed at the end of the half-year a falling off of £1,915,000, and the discount companies a falling off of as much as £5,558,000. A significant feature, and one not altogether unconnected with the reduction in the discount business, is that the current accounts and deposits of the two classes of institutions referred to have diminished £11,100,000—a rather astonishing figure; but one that tells its own tale in a way that requires no supplementing.

The results of the railway half-year, so far as they have transpired, are on all fours with those of the banking half-year. Decreased earnings, increased charges, and reduced dividends have been nearly general. But perhaps the most disappointing outcome has been that of the Great Eastern. This company, although having a gross increase of traffic of £101,000, has paid no dividend as compared with ½ per cent for the corresponding period, and has only managed to carry forward £2300. This has been wholly due to the growth in the expenses involved in running an extra 940,000 miles over the Northern Extension. It has, of course, to be borne in mind that the Northern Extension has yet to develop a paying traffic. Shareholders should have been prepared for what has just been experienced, and expectations would then have been formed on more moderate and reasonable lines than they seem to have been. However, the worst has been suffered, and the Extension, which is into a very promising gathering ground, will in time, there is every reason to believe, prove a valuable source of revenue.

Since I last wrote efforts have been made by speculators in New York to work up a panic in American railway securities, their material having been the supposition that some land speculators in Winnipeg have shown their inability to wait the full development of the immigration movement into the North-West of Canada that is every month assuming more important dimensions. The worst that can happen in connection with such failures is that the land on which the payment of instalments has fallen into arrear has been thrown back on the hands of the companies from whom they were originally purchased. It would, of course, have been more satisfactory to the latter if the speculation which has broken down had proved successful for those obvious reasons it is scarcely necessary to enumerate; but while the harvest and trade prospects of the North-West remain what they are, and while the stream of emigrants, not only from Europe, but also from the United States and Canada, flows on as it does, it must continue difficult for speculators to make much capital out of such incidents as those that have lately engaged their attention.

The encouraging announcement has been made that the scheme for consolidating the Turkish Debt on the lines recommended in Mr. Bourke's Report is about to be carried out, and that the several loans will be definitely classified into four distinct categories. As the 6 per cent loans at present stand, their prices present discrepancies that are a source of much perplexity, and greatly serve to hamper dealings. The new bonds for the purpose of the consolidation are now being printed.

T. S.

An ineffectual attempt was made at the Mart, Tokenhouse-yard, yesterday week, to dispose, by auction, of the Alexandra Palace, Park, and building land, in the vicinity of Muswell-hill. The whole estate, which originally cost something like a million and a quarter sterling, was put up at a reserve price of £325,000, but not a single bidding could be obtained from a gathering of City gentlemen unusually numerous. Then the property was offered in distinct lots, every one of which had to be bought in at the upset price.—It has been unanimously agreed at the Court of Common Council to refer for consideration to the Coal, Corn, and Finance Committee a memorial from the Hornsey Local Board, supported by Lord Shaftesbury, urging the desirability of securing the Alexandra Park for the free use of the public.

THE PLAYHOUSES.

The five-act play of "Louis Onze," written by Casimir Delavigne, the author of "L'Ecole des Vieillards," "Les Enfants d'Edouard," and numerous other more or less remembered productions, was styled, by its writer, a "tragedy," probably in deference to the classical house where it was, on the Eleventh of February, 1832, originally produced:—the Théâtre Français, to wit. It is in reality as romantic a play as Victor Hugo's "Ruy Blas," or Alexandre Dumas' "Christine"; and its romantic or melodramatic features were rendered still more conspicuous by the "character" acting of the admirable French actor Ligier, who in voice, mien, gesture, and costume made the presentment of the crafty and cruel tyrant as completely and distinctly a picture as that of Robert Macaire in the hands of Frédéric Lemaître. In Mr. Boucicault's English version of Delavigne's work, the melodramatic element is even heightened; although it is strange that the consummate playwright who wrote "The Colleen Bawn" failed to see that the five acts of "Louis the Eleventh" could easily have been compressed into three:—the first, in which Louis never makes his appearance, being mainly superfluous and tedious; while the third and fourth acts might have been advantageously merged into one. "Louis the Eleventh" is, nevertheless, save in one respect, a very strong play. Jacques Coitier, the blunt and sagacious physician to the King; the Duke of Nemours; the youthful Dauphin; the minister Philippe de Commines; the saintly anchorite François de Paule; the two "foils" of Louis, the brutal Tristan l'Hermite, Grand Prévôt and executioner; and Olivier le Dain, the barber-statesman; have all plenty to say and to do. The female characters alone are feeble, Marie de Commines being a mere "walking" lady. "Louis the Eleventh" was specially adapted to our stage to suit Mr. Charles Kean, touching whose merits as a tragedian the opinions of his critical contemporaries have always been divided, but who was undeniably excellent in humorous and semi-humorous parts. Mr. Kean in Louis the Eleventh was as intensely droll as he was in Mephistopheles, and as some ventured to think that he was in the "Corsican Brothers."

Mr. Henry Irving, who has once more revived the drama in which he first enacted the hero under the Bateman management at the Lyceum, playing it again in 1881, entirely and triumphantly fulfils, to my mind, all the requirements of the character as delineated by Casimir Delavigne. That dramatist went, not to his imagination, but to history for his Louis Onze. He found "Le Roy mesdisant" drawn to the life in the letter written by Estienne Pasquier to the Seigneur de Bissy. "I find in this King," says Estienne, "a quick, restless, versatile spirit, full of finesse and stratagems in his enterprises, false to his friends, full of fine promises to his enemies, which he used for their destruction, playing fast and loose with justice, sparing neither the blood nor the purses of his subjects; with a countenance full of religion and piety, and persuading himself that all crimes were to be allowed him if he only compounded for them by a few pilgrimages." This is precisely the King that Mr. Irving presents to us on the Lyceum stage. That the great actor in this most complex part is not sparing in the exhibition of the rare and rich quality of humour with which he is endowed is manifest; but in this also he has history on his side. The King must have had a caustic wit who once, having invited a wealthy merchant to dinner, was solicited by the aspiring bourgeois to grant him letters of nobility. Louis ordered a patent to be prepared, and then pithily bade his guest go about his business. "When I admitted you to my table," he said, "I was proud of entertaining the first among French merchants. I do not care about the company of the last of French gentlemen." The sayings of Mr. Irving as Louis XI. on the stage are all as pithy and caustic as those of the real despot of Plessis-les-Tours; but while their suddenness and their quaint drollery provoke the audience to merriment they are not the less the skilfullest of the artist's touches, not the less the work of an expert lapidary bringing out more and more of the "water" and the "show" of the gem which he is cutting. But, when the occasion demands it, Mr. Irving can rise to a height of tragic power which amazes, which awes, which terrifies. Now and again, when the tyrant is seized by a brief spasm of genuine remorse, as when he confesses his crimes to François de Paule, and when he listens to the reproaches of Nemours, whose father he has foully murdered, the actor's presentment of mental anguish is almost indescribably affecting; but the fit of penitence is soon over. It is succeeded by a convulsion of bloodthirsty rage and venomous hate; he is ready to slaughter the enemy who has just spared his miserable life; ready to steep himself to the lips in the same turpitude for which he has a moment before expressed himself as repentant. In Delavigne's play Louis causes Nemours the son as well as Nemours the father to be executed; and then—having ordered Tristan l'Hermite and Olivier le Dain to be forthwith put to death for having executed his orders—joins his hands in prayer and falls down dead—consistently dying like the sanguinary hypocrite that he is. Mr. Boucicault, in tenderness to the susceptibilities of an English audience, saves, at the nick of time, the life of young Nemours, who of course married Marie de Commines; and the penitent words which struggle from Louis's dying lips have thus some slight aspect of genuineness. The character, nevertheless, of the King, as drawn by Mr. Irving, is that of an incorrigibly vicious, perfidious, suspicious and pitiless man, with a heart deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked. That he was, in many respects, a wise and politic prince, who ultimately did much good to his realm by breaking down the power of the great feudal nobles none can doubt; but the good which he remotely effected had in the first instance no higher motives than his own personal selfishness and lust of sway. He was as cruel to his son as he had been to his father, who absolutely starved himself to death through dread of the poison which he knew his unnatural heir had prepared for him. He was craftier than the crookbacked Richard III., his contemporary. As cruel as Amarath, and as superstitious as Philip the Second of Spain, he had neither the generosity of the one nor the honesty of the other. It is of this humorous assassin and cheat, this waggish tyrant and traitor, this pious droll, this hardened and malignant wretch, who kept his wretched captives to languish in iron cages in the dungeons under his palace, and wrote letters to the Governor of the Bastille directing how his remoter prisoners should be "given Gehenna" or put to the torture—that Mr. Irving has depicted with astonishing truth and force, and with unsurpassed artistic perception.

Quite as remarkable as his superb interpretation of the character is the actor's presentment of the physical Louis the Eleventh. He makes him, perhaps, look a little older than he really was, since he was only sixty when he died; but it must be remembered that his frame had long been racked by a complication of disorders, aggravated by the sedentary and secluded life which he led. Mr. Irving shows us a splendid and virtually inimitable picture of the broken down, nervous, tetchy valetudinarian, only kept alive by the potions of the physician, whom he at once fears and loathes, and by his own indomitable strength of wicked will. Mr. Irving was excellently well supported by Mr. Terriss as the chivalrous

Nemours, Mr. J. Fernandez as the blunt and honest Jacques Coitier, Mr. A. Andrews as the young Dauphin; Mr. T. Wenham as the discreet Philippe de Commines, Mr. T. Mead as the sonorous cenobite François de Paule; Mr. Tyars, who looked every inch a hangman, as the unscrupulous Tristan l'Hermite; Mr. Archer as the smooth satellite Olivier le Dain, and Mr. Johnson as the jovial peasant Marcel. Miss Millward was sympathetic and graceful in the certainly not striking part of Marie de Commines; and Miss Payne was very sprightly as Martha, the artful country wife who tries to persuade the tottering old French Tiberius that he will live to be a hundred years old. "Louis the Eleventh," at the second performance of which, on Tuesday, the 24th inst., the Prince and Princess of Wales were present, was placed on the stage with the exquisite taste and the lavish magnificence which for a long time past have been inseparable from Mr. Irving's management at the Lyceum. G. A. S.

MUSIC.

We gave last week a summary of the season of the Royal Italian Opera, which closed on Saturday evening. There is but little to add to that notice. The one performance of the Italian version of Wagner's "Der Fliegende Holländer," with Madame Albani as Senta, has already been commented on. The other proceedings of the week included no novelty. Madame Adelina Patti's "Gala night" and the benefit of Madame Albani were among the closing arrangements, the first-named lady having appeared as Violetta in "La Traviata," the other as Gilda in "Rigoletto," both having been repetitions of fine performances recently commented on. The opera with which the season terminated on Saturday was Rossini's "Il Barbiere di Siviglia," which was given with a cast similar to that of recent occasions, including the Rosina of Madame Patti, her brilliant and charming vocalisation having been again displayed to a crowded and enthusiastic audience. The prima-donna also sang the solos in the National Anthem, with which the opera was supplemented.

Covent Garden Theatre will reopen on Aug. 4, for a series of Promenade Concerts, under the lesseeship of Mr. W. F. Thomas, with a band of about one hundred performers, led by Mr. Carrodus and conducted by Mr. A. Gwyllyn Crowe. The solo vocalists named for the opening night are Madame Rose Hersee, Madame Enriquez, Mr. Maas, and Mr. Maybrick.

The Philharmonic Society has already announced the dates of next year's concerts—the seventy-second season. There are to be six performances—on Feb. 7 and 21, March 6 and 20, April 23, and May 7. Mr. Cusins has resigned the conductorship, which he has held since 1867, and the office is to be distributed among six gentlemen, invitations having been given to Sir Arthur Sullivan, Dr. Stainer, Mr. J. F. Barnett, Mr. F. H. Cowen, Mr. G. Mount, and Mr. C. V. Stanford; five of whom have accepted.

The Moore and Burgess Minstrels have commenced a new series of their entertainments at St. James's Hall. The programme, as heretofore, presents an alternation of humour and pathos calculated to please various tastes. In the former respect, Mr. Moore's amusing description of his experiences on board ship and his new comic song, "The Golden Choir," were among the many successes of the evening. Other solos were effectively given by several vocalists, and there was also some very good choral singing—the entertainment having concluded with a sensational sketch, in which real water is introduced as rain.

Messrs. Sinclair Dunn and Edward Belville give a concert this (Saturday) evening at the Royal Academy of Music, the second part of the programme consisting of a comic opera, "The Three Beggars," to be performed in costume.

Sir Arthur Sullivan visited Leeds at the end of last week in order to make acquaintance with the choral forces which will be under his command at the triennial festival in October next, and conducted two rehearsals. Sir Arthur had an enthusiastic reception, and the result was most satisfactory.

The medals—gold, silver, and bronze—gained by the successful students of the London Academy of Music were presented last Saturday evening at St. George's Hall, by Sir Julius Benedict, who bore testimony to the progress which the recipients had made, and expressed his belief that the Academy would soon be equal and able to hold its own with any similar institution in the country.

The competition for the Charles Lucas Medal at the Royal Academy of Music was decided last Saturday, the prize being awarded to Frederick Kilvington Hattersley.

The Lord Mayor has remitted £1010 to the Royal College of Music as the result of the concert given at Guildhall.

That excellent institution the Royal Normal College and Academy of Music for the Blind, at Upper Norwood, held its annual festival at the Crystal Palace last week, when the prizes were distributed by Mr. John Bright, who made an eloquent address in reference to the benefits conferred on the students by a good general training and special instruction in music, whereby they are not only placed in command of a beautiful art, but are also enabled to earn their own livelihood, notwithstanding their deprivation of sight. The efficiency of the pupils was manifested in several instances, especially by Mr. A. Hollins's skilful performance of Beethoven's Pianoforte Concerto in E flat, Mr. F. Turner's execution of an organ Prelude by Bach, the solo singing of Miss Reece, and the part-singing of the choir.

An Essex gentleman named Ovey, by a will made in 1881, bequeathed his personal estate to the wife of Dr. T. Robertson, after making various legacies. The legacies amounted to £48,500, and the personal estate proved to be worth only £39,660. Mrs. Robertson sought the assistance of the Courts on the ground that hers was a specific legacy; but the House of Lords has confirmed the decision of the Court of Appeal that the pecuniary legacies must be paid before Mrs. Robertson could be entitled to anything under the bequest.

Lord Penzance delivered judgment last Saturday in the protracted litigation which under the Public Worship Regulation Act has been going on against the Rev. Alexander Heriot Mackonochie, for many years Vicar of St. Alban's, Holborn, but now of St. Peter's, London Docks. His Lordship decided that Mr. Mackonochie had offended against the laws of the Church in the respects charged against him, and pronounced formal sentence of deprivation, the defendant being condemned in the costs of the suit.

The annual exhibition of the Highland Agricultural Society of Scotland, which extends over four days, was opened at Inverness on Tuesday morning. The total number of entries were:—Cattle, 354; horses, 172; sheep, 373; swine, 33; poultry, 304; and implements, 1280; while the value of premiums offered amounted to £1978. In the polled classes, the Queen has sent in the animal from Aberfeldy which appeared in the show of the Royal Agricultural Society at Aberdeen last week. Lord Tweedmouth and the Earl of Sutherland are also exhibitors.

EVENING FETE AT THE FISHERIES EXHIBITION.

The entertainment on Wednesday week at the International Fisheries Exhibition, South Kensington, was a brilliant success. It was got up in aid of the fund for erecting an English church at Berlin, to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the marriage of our Princess Royal with the Imperial Crown Prince of Germany and Prussia. More than six thousand ladies and gentlemen came in the course of the evening. Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Albany, Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, the Duchess of Connaught, and Princess Mary, Duchess of Teck, engaged most actively in the business of the Fancy Fair. The Prince and Princess of Wales enjoyed all the amusements heartily, and her Royal Highness, at half-past ten o'clock, in the Conservatory, joined in selling the floral "button-holes" and "shoulder-knots," supplied by flowers from the West Indies. The Duchess of Albany sold cups of tea at a stall in the Chinese Court, presided over by the Marchioness Tseng, wife of the Chinese Ambassador. The Marquis Tseng himself had painted fans to be sold upon this occasion, worked in embroidery by the Marchioness Tseng, and another Chinese artist in this line was actually at work on the spot. In the Central Promenade there was a refreshment stall kept by the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, who were assisted by the Duchess of Manchester, Lady Amptill, and the Lady Mayoress. Lady Waterlow presided over the "American bar," at which the Countess D'Aunay, Mrs. Ronalds, Miss Ronalds, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Roche, Miss Jerome, and Mrs. Sands served the public with sherry cobbler, mint julep, and other favourite drinks or American dainties. The fish pond, to angle in which visitors were charged five shillings, contained an unlimited supply of all sorts of articles, some of which were of a highly amusing nature, since shouts of hearty laughter frequently greeted the successful fisherman. The Prince of Wales was not slow to try his luck with the rod and line. The leading spirits in this enterprise were the Countess of Dufferin and Lord Charles Beresford. Not far distant Mrs. Owen Williams had a flower stall, and the Lady Mayoress and party of ladies sold refreshments. Throughout the building parties of ladies and gentlemen offered peaches, flowers, and other small objects for sale. The electric light was used in the Conservatory, and in the principal arcades of the Exhibition; but the Horticultural Society's gardens were beautifully illuminated with a variety of coloured lamps and other devices. This part of the arrangements was furnished by Mr. James Pain, pyrotechnist, of Walworth. At the theatre, in the west pavilion, Mr. and Mrs. Beerbohm Tree performed a diverting farce, "Six and Eightpence"; and Mr. Franz Goedecker showed his dexterity in quickly modelling busts. In the east pavilion theatre, recitations and songs were given by Miss Amy Sedgwick, Miss Ada Cavendish, Miss Jennie Young, Mr. C. Warner, and Mr. Harry Paulton. The Hungarian band, led by Mr. Berkes Lagos, was in the Conservatory; and the bands of the Royal Horse Guards, the Grenadier Guards, and the 6th Thuringian Regiment of the German army were stationed in kiosks on the garden slopes, or in the promenade gallery. The Royal Criterion handbell-ringers also gave a performance. This most successful fête was repeated last Wednesday evening, when several of their Royal Highnesses again joined the company; and it must have produced a large sum of money for the building of the English church at Berlin.

SKETCHES IN CAIRO.

We have sad news from Cairo in these days, when four or five hundred daily of the inhabitants are dying of the cholera; but our Artist's Sketches of the picturesque native quarter of the Egyptian capital city, of the Bedouins' tents near Ghizeh, and of the boatmen's cottages on the banks of the Nile, have their wonted interest for our readers. The street view, represented in one of them is a good example of the characteristic fashions of old Cairene architecture; with its ground-floor shops, which are mere stone-built recesses in the front wall, usually quite unconnected with the interior of the house; its plastered upper storeys, jutting out upon corbels, and supporting the further projection of latticed windows, often handsomely carved in wood; the overshadowing penthouses to exclude the blazing sun of Egypt; and the frequent minaret or cupola, belonging to a sacred edifice. It is in the eastern part of Cairo, quite away from the Nile, between the city gate called the Bab-el-Futah and the fortified palace or citadel at the foot of Mount Mulkattam, that these narrow, old-fashioned streets of the purely Mussulman town are to be found. Here is the Ghoriyyeh, with its stately assemblage of mosques, which have been particularly described in our former notices; here are the several bazaars of the coppersmiths, the silversmiths and jewellers, the shoemakers and leather-sellers, the armourers and cutlers, the dealers in cotton goods, the sugar-dealers, the druggists, and other trades. To the European visitor, in ordinary times, when he can stroll about these close alleys without fear of an epidemic disease, they abound with strange and curious sights, making him feel himself really amongst an Oriental people.

The annual meeting of the Women's Suffrage Society was held on the 19th inst. at the Westminster Palace Hotel—Mr. Leonard Courtney, M.P., and Dr. Cameron, M.P., successively occupying the chair. Mr. Stansfeld, M.P., and Mr. Archdale, M.P., with several ladies, were amongst the speakers, and resolutions in support of the object of the association were carried.

During the past week seven steamers, with live stock and fresh meat on board, arrived at Liverpool from the United States and Canada, bringing a total supply of 1548 cattle, 1530 sheep, 4033 quarters of beef, and 224 carcasses of mutton. The figures show a falling off in both live stock and fresh meat, more especially in fresh meat, when compared with the arrivals of the past few weeks.

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Bedouin Encampment near the Pyramids.

Street of Geb-el-Almar.
SKETCHES IN CAIRO.

Boatmen's Cottages.

ROUND ABOUT PARIS.

SÈVRES.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Tuesday, July 24.

The sun was shining brilliantly, the river was glistening with furrows and wavelets created by the passage of the busy steam-boats; the Louvre, the Institute, the cathedral of Notre Dame, and all that picturesque mass of buildings and foliage that forms the island of St. Louis, as seen from the Pont Royal, stood out against the clear sky with a precision and purity of outline that one rarely finds further north than the latitude of the modern Athens, a purity that reminds one sometimes of the delicate visions of the Japanese albums, and that enables the fair Parisiennes to wear in the open air toilettes of the most vapoury and tender tones. In the early morning rain had fallen, and the sky was of a delicious fresh blue. And there came into my mind an order of the Emperor Chi-Tsong, who centuries ago—nine centuries ago, say the chronologists—proclaimed one day that—"In future the porcelain for the use of the palace shall be blue as the heavens after rain in the intervals of the clouds." And in that wonderful Chinese land such a command was sufficient to produce a potter who could make the porcelain of *Tu-Kouo-Thien-Tsing*, blue of the sky after rain!

There is sometimes a providence that watches over idlers; for while I was reflecting over the marvels of Chinese blue of the sky after the rain, which became so precious that in after years the smallest fragments of it were worn as ornaments, and used for buttons on ceremonial head-gear, the bell of the steam-boats began to tinkle. It was the *Hirondelle*, about to start for Suresnes, St. Cloud, and Sèvres. Sèvres! Why not jump on board while the fit was on? At Sèvres there is a ceramic museum that has recently been reorganised. *Advansez, Messieurs, si l vous plait! En route!* And so, after half an hour's delightful voyage down the river, I landed at Sèvres, crossed the main road, entered the park, and found myself at the door of the Musée Céramique, a clean spick-and-span new building of old-maidish neatness, the ideal home of china ware.

The Musée Céramique sees very few visitors, and the guardians seem to pass most of their time lounging round on the divans, reading the newspapers and singing to each other the praises of M. Champfleury, the excellent Curator of the museum. M. Champfleury's name comes up at every moment. M. Champfleury has bought this piece and that piece; M. Champfleury is going to rearrange this case; ah! if M. Champfleury only had a little more money at his disposal! Alas! Sèvres is not very rich, and its funds scarcely enable it to compete with the great amateurs. Madame de Pompadour is no longer there to watch over her favourite creation, flattering the artists and organising exhibitions of Sèvres ware in the chateau of Versailles; selling the ware, even, and imposing on the Court this new fashion and this new expense by all the means that a favourite commands. "It is to fail in one's duties as a citizen," she used to say, "not to buy this porcelain as long as one has any money." It is to Madame de Pompadour that France owes the establishment of Sèvres and the discovery of that porcelain that rivalled the hitherto unique Saxe. It is to Madame de Pompadour, to the caprice of an adorable woman who was almost a Queen, that we owe the deliciously affected Louis XV. Sèvres, into which Madame de Pompadour put something of her beauty, of her smile, and of her charm.

About the technicalities of the manufacture of Sèvres porcelain, the mysteries of *pâte tendre* and *pâte dure* and the combined excellences of the new *pâte* discovered by the present administrator of the manufactory, M. Lauth, the reader must not seek information here. I am simply reminding him of the existence of a fine museum which few visitors to Paris ever reach, a museum where he will be able to see the progress of pottery and porcelain from the most ancient times up to the present day. The arrangement of the museum is simple and admirable. There are there specimens of all the known faïences and porcelains; not all fine specimens, it is true; still there they are, ticketed and dated and classified by origin and family. Old Egyptian, old Roman, Gallic, Oïron ware, faïences of Urbino, of Gubbio, of Lucca della Robbia, Moustier, Nevers, Rouen, splendid enamelled faïence stoves, a magnificent work-table, the top of which is an immense tray of Rouen ware, Hispano-Mauresque pottery with its metallic reflections, Medicean ware and Sèvres ware of all epochs, some of which—as, for instance, the epoch of 1830-40—are marvellous for the bad taste of the shapes and designs as they are for the perfection of the execution. Then there are cases full of the delicious porcelain of Japan and of China, the porcelain of China superior to all the porcelains of the universe, that porcelain that for centuries and all over the globe has had collectors more crazy and passionate than any other branch of curiosity—that porcelain whose perfection the Chinese attributed to the intervention of the Spirit of furnace fires, who protected the baking of the works of the Ceramists, whom he loved. Here are marvels; porcelain translucent as jade, blue porcelain, blue as the sky, thin as paper, brilliant as a mirror; white *Chou* porcelain, whose whiteness, according to a Chinese poet, surpasses the whiteness of snow, and whose sonority is more plaintive than the wind that whispers amongst the reeds on a sunless day, for the poets of the extreme Orient sing of the beauties of porcelain as our poets would sing of a fine landscape. Truly there is no greater enchantment for the eyes of a colourist than the delicacies of the palette of the Chinese Ceramists, those consummate artists who could satisfy the desire of Chi-Tsong, and produce porcelain of the blue of the heavens after rain in the intervals of the clouds.

But what have these China reveries to do with the sayings and doings of Paris? Gentle reader, you know far more about the Suez Canal question in London than we do in Paris; you know that the Comte de Chambord is getting better, and that M. Alfred Naquet has been elected Senator for Vaucluse; and you will probably not be particularly interested to know that the Senate has been occupied all the week with the question of the reform of the magistracy, and the Chamber with that of the conventions with the railway companies. And yet these facts, together with the uncertain weather and the approaching departure of President Grévy for Mont-sous-Vaudrey, sum up the news of the week.

In Monday's sitting of the Spanish Chamber of Deputies, the ratification of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation with Germany was voted.

The King and Queen of the Belgians arrived at Spa on the morning of the 19th inst., and the King and Queen of the Netherlands in the afternoon. The two Sovereigns on meeting exchanged very cordial greetings.

The Geneva International Regatta was held on Sunday. The chief event, the Grand Prix, was won by the Cercle d'Aviron of Paris, the Paris Rowing Club being second.

The Swiss National Rifle competition closed on the 19th inst. The principal prize was won by Melmer, of St. Gall.

Mr. Hubert Herkmer has been awarded a diploma of honour in the paintings section of the Amsterdam Exhibition.

The Crown Prince of Austria on Saturday last inspected the preparations for the International Electrical Exhibition, in the rotunda of the Vienna Exhibition building of 1873. The number of exhibitors has reached 570.

M. Rallis, Minister of Justice, has resigned, and a complete modification of the Greek Cabinet has taken place. M. Tricoupi assumes the functions of Minister of Finance and Minister of War, and, provisionally, those of Minister of Marine. M. Voulpiotes has been appointed Minister of Education and Ecclesiastical Affairs. M. Contostavlos retains his portfolio as Minister for Foreign Affairs, and takes *ad interim* that of Minister of Justice. M. Lombardos, formerly Minister of Public Instruction, becomes Minister of the Interior. Admiral Jombazis, the President of the Commission for the construction of war vessels, has been recalled from England to assume the post of Minister of Marine.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from our Minister at Athens, Mr. Clare Ford, intimating that the Greek Government are willing to grant a piece of ground for such buildings as may be necessary for the British School at Athens. The contributions given or promised by friends of the project in England exceed £6000. Subscriptions will be received by Messrs. Grindlay, 55, Parliament-street, S.W.

Advices received on Monday in Alexandria from Khartoum announce the rapid rising of the Nile.

A sculling-match between Edward Hanlan, of Toronto, and Wallace Ross, of New Brunswick, for the championship of the world and 2000 dols. a side, took place over a four-miles course, on the St. Lawrence, near Ogdensburg. Special trains were run to that city from all parts of Canada and many parts of the United States, and about 15,000 persons were present to witness the race. Hanlan passed the winning post twenty lengths in front of his opponent, the time being 27 min. 57 sec. Ross's time was 28 min. 54 sec.—A threatened strike of telegraph operators in the United States took effect on the 19th inst. Three hundred and seventy-five operators left their work in New York City alone, and two hundred other cities are involved in the movement. The men demand an increase of wages which would amount to a million and a half dollars per annum, and the Western Union Company, which is chiefly concerned, estimates that the defeat of the strike will cost one million dollars. It is contemplated to send for operators from England.—A severe tornado passed over Minnesota and Dakota on Monday. A railway train was overturned by the force of the wind, and thirty-four of the passengers were injured. In another part three people were killed and several hurt through accidents caused by the violence of the tornado. It is further reported that nine people were killed and fifty injured near Huron, Dakota.—An excursion party from Baltimore, at a suburb called Tivoli (a popular place of resort near Baltimore) assembled on Monday night upon a pier to take the return steamer. The steamer struck the pier, when the structure fell into the water, carrying with it a large number of people. It is believed that a hundred lives have been lost.

The House of Assembly at Capetown has rejected by a large majority Mr. Hofmeyer's motion for an appeal to the country on the Basuto Question.—According to a Reuter's despatch from Durban, under Monday's date, Cetewayo was attacked and completely defeated by Usibepu, who subsequently burnt Ulundi. Cetewayo was wounded. By a later telegram we are informed that a report has reached Durban of Cetewayo having been killed.

We learn from Melbourne that the Hon. James Service, Premier and Colonial Treasurer, made his financial statement in the Victoria Legislative Assembly on the 18th inst. He estimates the revenue of the colony for 1883-4 at £6,000,000, and the expenditure at £6,060,000. The revenue for the last financial year ending June 30 was £5,770,000, and the expenditure £5,690,000. The amount borrowed for public works was restricted to £1,000,000 for the construction of railways, in order to utilise the rolling stock and rails on hand. The Premier proposed to contract a new loan of £3,000,000 to meet the old loans falling due. He added that the public debt of Victoria now amounted to £26,000,000. At a public meeting convoked in Melbourne on the 20th inst. by the Mayor of that city, resolutions were unanimously passed indorsing the address to the Queen, voted by the Victoria Legislature, in support of the annexation of New Guinea and other Pacific islands, or the establishment of a Protectorate over those territories.

The Tasmanian Parliament was opened on Tuesday by Sir G. Cumine Strahan, the Governor, who congratulated the Legislature upon the prosperity of the country. He announced that it had been decided to appoint a Tasmanian agent-general in London. The Governor also laid stress upon the necessity of preventing foreign occupation of the Pacific Islands.

The *Melbourne Argus* in its summary of news received on Monday morning says—Mr. Bryce, Minister of Native Affairs in New Zealand, has successfully passed unarmed and unescorted through the affected Maori districts known as the King country. The Maori chief, Tawhiao, believing that Cetewayo was restored to his country by the British Government as "King of the Zulus" with much state and many presents, is proposing a trip to England, hoping for similar results to himself. Unusually severe weather has been experienced in New Zealand. Railway communication has been interrupted, and serious damage inflicted upon the crops.

Christ Church, Dieppe (patrons the Earl of Aberdeen and Lord Kinnaird), was recently opened for Divine service by Bishop Alfred, in the presence of M. Huët, Sous-Préfet, and M. Anquetin, Mayor of Dieppe; Mr. Lee-Jortin, H.B.M.'s Vice-Consul; Mr. Le Bourgeois, Vice-Consul of the United States, and Sweden and Norway; the French Protestant Pasteur, the Swedish and Norwegian Chaplain, Captain Stirling, R.N., and a numerous congregation. The Rev. J. S. Moore, D.C.L., Chaplain of the Colonial and Continental Church Society, read the prayers, and the Bishop preached. There is a reading-room in connection with Christ Church for the use of the British, American, Swedish, and Norwegian seamen who frequent the port. After the ceremony the Vice-Consul received the Bishop and others at luncheon.

Last week the first annual assembly of the recently-formed Congregational Union for the Channel Islands was held at St. Helier's. The inaugural sermon was preached on Tuesday by the Rev. Alex. Hannay, D.D., secretary to the Congregational Union of England and Wales; and on Wednesday the Rev. J. Thomson, of Guernsey, chairman of the Union, presided, the Rev. Dr. Hannay, with the various pastors and delegates, taking part in the proceedings.

Following the example of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, the Congregationalists of Australia and New Zealand have commemorated their jubilee by a series of intercolonial meetings at Sydney. At one of the sittings a jubilee fund was started for the extinction of the debts resting on the churches, schools, and mansees, and also for establishing a pastors' retiring fund, which was initiated some time ago. The meetings were marked by great enthusiasm. The expenses (upwards of £700) of the delegates from other colonies were borne by the Australian churches.

THE COURT.

During the last week's stay of the Queen at Windsor she was visited by various members of the Royal family, including Prince and Princess Christian, with their daughters, the Duke and Duchess of Albany and Princess Alice, the Duke of Cambridge, the Hereditary Princess of Saxe-Meiningen, the Grand Duchess and the Hereditary Grand Duke and Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz and the Duchesses Marie and Jutta, Count Gleichen and Countess Feodore Gleichen. Among the dinner guests have been the Duke of Westminster, Earl and Countess Granville, the Earl of Mount-Edgcombe, Sir Stafford and Lady Northcote, Sir Richard Cross, Miss Murray M'Gregor, and the Dean of Windsor, with various members of the Royal Household-in-Waiting. At the last Council held by her Majesty were the Duke of Albany, Lord Carlingford, Earl Sydney, and the Earl of Kenmare. Lord Carlingford had audience of the Queen, who afterwards conferred knighthood on various gentlemen, the Duke of Albany being at the ceremony. Last Saturday her Majesty decorated Private Robert Gaw, 1st Battalion Scots Guards, with the medal for distinguished service in the field at Tel-el-Kebir. The Duke and Duchess of Albany left the castle for Bagshot, to be present at the Duke and Duchess of Connaught's garden party, their infant, Princess Alice, being taken home to Claremont. Princess Elizabeth of Hesse also went to the garden party, returning in the evening. The Dean of Windsor performed Divine service early on Sunday in the Royal Mausoleum at Frogmore, the Queen and Princess Elizabeth of Hesse attending. The Dean also officiated in the private chapel at noon. Princess Elizabeth of Hesse came to London on Monday for the Prince and Princess of Wales's garden party.

The Queen and Princess Elizabeth left Windsor on Tuesday for Osborne.

Sir Louis Malet is to be sworn of the Privy Council, and baronetcies have been conferred by her Majesty upon Dr. Andrew Clark and Mr. Prescott Hewett.

A distinguished service reward of £100 a year has been conferred on Major-General G. Pearce, R.A., who served with distinction in the campaign following upon the Indian Mutiny. Telegrams have been dispatched to Cairo by her Majesty inquiring as to the health of her troops.

Upon the marriage of Miss Eva Louisa Bontein, only daughter of Mr. James Bontein, her Majesty's Clerk of the Robes, to the Hon. John Schomberg Trefusis, youngest son of the late Lord Clinton, which took place at Whippingham church, the Queen's gift to the bride was a ruby and diamond bangle bracelet; that of Princess Beatrice a ruby and diamond horseshoe brooch; and from the Duke of Albany a pair of silver candlesticks.

The Volunteer Camp at Wimbledon was visited by the Prince and Princess of Wales before its close, their Royal Highnesses dining at the Cottage with Earl and Countess Brownlow. Yesterday week the Prince presided at Marlborough House over a meeting of the Council of the Royal College of Music. Prince Christian, who was present, lunched with their Royal Highnesses, and Ismail Ibrahim Pasha visited them. In the afternoon the building of the Home for Little Boys, erected at Swanley, was opened by the Prince and Princess, a gold key, constructed to open all the buildings, being presented to his Royal Highness as a souvenir. A tree was planted by the Princess, and the head master was visited at his residence for the purpose of inspecting the accommodation of the senior boys. Their Royal Highnesses drove thence to Frognaal, Foot's Cray, and dined with Earl and Countess Sydney. The Prince went to Sandringham on Saturday to see Prince Albert Victor, who is studying for the Universities. His Royal Highness and his son were at Divine service on Sunday, performed by the Rev. H. Hervey, at St. Mary Magdalene's, in the park. The Prince returned to Marlborough House on Monday, as did the Hereditary Princess of Saxe-Meiningen, who had been on a visit to Prince and Princess Christian at Cumberland Lodge. The Prince and Princess had a garden party, at which of the guests were the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, the Duchess of Albany, Prince and Princess Christian, the Hereditary Princess of Saxe-Meiningen, the Hereditary Grand Duke and Hereditary Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Princess Elizabeth of Hesse, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Duke and Duchess of Teck. The Prince presided on Tuesday at a meeting of his Council, held at the office of the Duchy of Cornwall. His Royal Highness has appointed Sir John Rose Receiver-General of the Duchy, vice General Sir William Thomas Knollys, deceased. Prince and Princess Christian and the Duke and Duchess of Teck lunched with their Royal Highnesses at Marlborough House. The Prince and Princess, accompanied by the Hereditary Princess of Saxe-Meiningen and the Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud of Wales, visited the head-quarters of the Fire Brigade at Southwark and witnessed the drill of the brigade under Captain Shaw. In the evening the Prince and Princess and the Hereditary Princess of Saxe-Meiningen went to the Lyceum Theatre, and were afterwards at a ball given by the Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury, at their residence in Arlington-street.

Mr. Frederick Cowie has submitted to the Prince his picture of "The Charge of the Seaforth Highlanders at the Battle of Tel-el-Kebir."

His Royal Highness presented Miss Callander with a bracelet on her marriage to Mr. Baird, of Elie, master of the Cottesmore Hounds.

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught gave a garden party at Bagshot Park last Saturday, which was largely attended by the neighbourhood and the garrisons of Aldershot and Windsor, as well as by various members of the Royal family. Their Royal Highnesses were at Sir Bartle and Lady Frere's garden party at Wressil Lodge.

The Duchess of Albany, accompanied by the Duke, presented the "Squire" scholarships and school prizes to the pupils of the Royal School for Daughters of Officers of the Army, at Clarence House, Richmond, yesterday week. The Duke went to Marlborough on Monday, and attended the distribution of prizes to the students at the college. Addressees were presented to him by the Mayor and Corporation and by the boys. A luncheon was given in honour of his Royal Highness, and he was present at an organ recital in the chapel in the afternoon and at a dramatic entertainment in the Upper School in the evening. The Duke remained the guest of the High Master and Mrs. Bell for the night, and on Tuesday he paid a visit to the Marquis and Marchioness of Ailesbury at Savernake, where he planted a tree, and after luncheon returned to Claremont.

The Paddington Vestry has agreed to convert the disused churchyard of St. Mary, Paddington-green, which is upwards of three acres in extent and well timbered, into a pleasant place for sober recreative purposes. Flower beds are to be formed; railings, neat in appearance, substituted for unsightly walls; fallen and neglected headstones laid flat, and, where necessary, defective vaults and graves amended.

THE SILENT MEMBER.

Pecuni! Earl Granville in the House of Lords, and Mr. Gladstone in the House of Commons, on Monday virtually admitted the soft impeachment that they had erred in sanctioning the provisional agreement with M. de Lesseps for a second Suez Canal. The Foreign Secretary and the Premier naturally covered their retreat from an untenable position with clouds of words to justify their policy. None the less, the introduction only to withdraw that which the Marquis of Salisbury stigmatised as an "improvident agreement" cannot fail to prove damaging to the reputation of the Government. The error of judgment has placed in the hands of the Conservative Opposition a weapon, which they, in their hopefulness, may still regard as a sword of Damocles hanging over the devoted heads of the Ministry.

The preliminary fencing in Parliament on this Suez Canal Question (recalled to mind by Mr. Harry Furniss's sketches of familiar figures) was marked by some dextrous sword-play on both sides. Earl Granville displayed the blandness of his graceful and conciliatory rhetoric to advantage on Tuesday week in endeavouring to make the best of a bad bargain by the use of the argument I summarised last week. Even the easy-going and sweet-tempered Foreign Secretary could scarcely have avoided wincing, however, when the Marquis of Salisbury—master of a terse, satirical style, as well as of the "flouts and sneers" his departed chief once credited him with—crushingly rejoined that, "If this bargain is concluded it will give a practical security to the monopoly claimed by M. de Lesseps, which will be an impediment to the chance of such a desirable end whenever circumstances may be favourable to our achieving it in the future." Though the Lord Chancellor felt bound to rise from the woolsack to rebuke Lord Salisbury for the business-like tone he had adopted in discussing this matter of business, and though they are generally on political matters far as the poles asunder, their differences of opinion did not keep Lord Selborne from fulfilling a dinner engagement with the noble Marquis the same evening, and it is well known that a "happy event" is soon to bind their families more closely together. In the Commons, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett has developed his Jack-in-the-box tendencies since the bereavement of Lord Randolph Churchill has deprived the "Fourth Party" of their dashing leader; and when the irrepressible member for Eye, rising from the front Opposition bench below the gangway, has propounded some intricate Suez problem, or has sought on other occasions to emulate the hearty reverberating cheer of Lord Randolph, it has been curious to note the looks of lofty wonder Sir H. Drummond-Wolff and Mr. Gorst (Foreign Secretary and Attorney General in embryo of the "Fourth Party") have bestowed upon one they are presumably pleased to consider an interloper. Being among the most pertinacious and liveliest candidates for office in the next Conservative Government, Sir H. Drummond Wolff and Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett are, perhaps, worth sketching. Mr. Bourke, too, has been so vivacious and clear of speech over this Suez Question as to merit reappointment as Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs when his Party returns to power. Of Mr. Childers, it may be said that this "improvident Agreement" stamps him as a failure as Chancellor of the Exchequer. Nor has Sir Henry James improved his position as a statesman by his "legal" decision of an exceedingly questionable point in favour of M. de Lesseps.

Given that the Canal Agreement had to be discarded, the uncongenial task of tearing it up was performed with as good a grace as could have been expected by the Prime Minister on Monday. Mr. Gladstone wore a red geranium or verberna button-hole, either to do honour to this statement of "high policy" or to the Prince of Wales's garden party. He veiled his strategic movement with a cloud of verbiage. But it was not difficult to extract the grain of wheat from the bushel of chaff. The Premier set out by saying that the Government were first persuaded to take up the question of the second Suez Canal by a double deputation that waited upon them, headed by Mr. Monk and Mr. Laing, on April 26 last; and the right hon. gentleman earnestly justified their agreement to the provisional contract, on the grounds of fairplay and justice to M. de Lesseps and the Suez Canal Company, and of the expediency of upholding our friendly relations with France. Mr. Gladstone then cited the remarkable fact that the Government computed "that in a limited number of years the tonnage of the canal, which is now about 6,000,000, will reach 12,000,000; and when it has reached 12,000,000 tons, the dividends of the company will have been raised to such a point that the reduction of rates will amount to a removal of the burden on the shipping passing through the canal exceeding £1,000,000 annually; and evidently that is a very considerable matter." There was laughter at the punning admission that "it was a case of *quid pro quo*, and the question whether the *quo* was worth the *quid*." Then came an extract from Sir Rivers Wilson's letter to the effect that M. de Lesseps was sure that, in any case, "immediate measures would be taken so that a second canal during the greater part of its length might be rapidly constructed within the limits of the land already conceded, although they might at the proper time have to apply to the Egyptian Government for additional ground where the present width was insufficient." Viewing all the circumstances of the case, and considering especially the desirability of adopting a course which would be generally acceptable to the country, Mr. Gladstone at length announced, amid cheers, that he did not intend to ask "Parliament to give its sanction to this agreement." Lightly referring to the suggestions that the subject should be considered by a Royal Commission, and that the Suez Canal ought ultimately to be managed by an International Commission, the Premier offered no opinion on either point; but he most eloquently and emphatically affirmed at the close of his speech that "We think it our duty to do justice, as far as lies in our power, to this great Canal Company, and to its sagacious and energetic projectors."

Mr. Gladstone, it may be of interest to remark, concluded the Ministerial statement of Monday last with such extraordinary vigour, and delivered each sentence in such ringing tones as to rouse the waning enthusiasm of the Liberal Party, and to afford the most welcome proof of his being in good health.

Sir Stafford Northcote (unbadgered by Lord Randolph Churchill on his flank) has not for a long time spoken out so manfully as he has upon this Suez fix the Government placed themselves in. In common with the Marquis of Salisbury and Sir Richard Cross, maybe the right hon. Baronet has had high encouragement, for it is not without significance at this juncture that the trio of Conservative leaders have been the guests of her Majesty at Windsor. However that may be, it was pleasing to see Sir Stafford Northcote to some extent himself again on Monday. It was not, however, till Tuesday that the leader of the Opposition (formulating the opinion Lord Salisbury again gave expression to on Monday in answer to Lord Granville's brief statement) gave notice of the terms of the resolution he wished to move next Monday:—

That a humble address be presented to her Majesty praying that in any negotiations or proceedings with reference to the Suez Canal Company to which her Majesty may be a party she will, whilst respecting the undoubted rights of the company in regard to their own concession, decline to recognise any claim on their part to such a monopoly as would exclude the possibility of competition on the part of other undertakings designed for the purpose of opening a water communication between the Mediterranean and the Red Sea.

To which Mr. Gladstone made answer at once: "No opinion to that effect has at any time been given by her Majesty's Government." Not by implication?

The eternal Bradlaugh difficulty cropped up again on the 19th and 20th inst., when, apropos of a writ issued on the part of the excluded member for Northampton against Captain Gosset for the intimation that he had been instructed to hinder him from entering the body of the House, Sir Henry James was instructed as Attorney-General to appear in Court on behalf of the veteran Serjeant-at-Arms, whose approach to the table was hailed with sympathetic cheers.

The Agricultural Tenants' Compensation Bill has at last got out of Committee. A collateral question, that of granting facilities to tenant farmers and agricultural labourers on this side the St. George's Channel to become peasant proprietors of their land by purchase, was yesterday week discussed at the invitation of Mr. Jesse Collings—and talked out. It is notable, however, that Mr. Broadhurst informed the House that the revolutionary doctrines of Mr. George were spreading widely among the working classes. On Monday Sir Michael Hicks-Beach's amendment to the Compensation Bill, the effect of which would have been to enable landlords to contract themselves out of the obligations of the measure, was rejected by 139 votes against 97. The proximity of Goodwood had something to do with the quick progress made on Tuesday, when the remaining clauses were passed, and Mr. Dodson was cheered by the "hear, hears" that greeted the reporting of the bill. Wednesday was spent over the Scottish Agricultural Holdings Bill.

The Manchester Ship Canal Bill was on Tuesday read a second time in the House of Lords, and an attempt to exclude it on a technical point defeated. The same day, the rival bills for Railway Tunnels under the English Channel were withdrawn from the Commons on account of the adverse verdict of the Joint Committee.

Better late than never, the military authorities have formed a special staff of English officers to grapple with the plague of cholera that is raging in Egypt. But not before some fatal cases had occurred, apparently, in the 42nd and 79th, were General Sir Evelyn Wood, General Stephenson, and Baker Pasha appointed to join the Egyptian Sanitary Commission.

EDUCATION.

By a recent minute the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education have decided to withdraw the prizes hitherto given to candidates in the science examinations who obtain a first class in the elementary stage of the various subjects of science, substituting certificates of merit, and retaining only the prizes given in the advanced stage. The money formerly devoted to prizes will be employed in providing for thirty-six National Scholarships—twelve each year—which will be offered in competition to students of the industrial classes and awarded at the annual examinations of the department. The National Scholarship will be tenable, at the option of the holder, either at the Normal School of Science, South Kensington, or at the Royal College of Science, Dublin, during the course for the associateship—about three years. The scholar will receive 30s. a week during the session of about nine months in the year, second-class railway fare to and from London or Dublin, and free admission to the lectures and laboratories.

Lord Cranbrook presided, on the 19th inst., at the distribution of prizes to the boys of Cowper-street School, Finsbury. His Lordship, in his address to the students, spoke of the great value of a public school education as tending to engender a wholesome *esprit de corps* among the scholars, and especially urged the value of a spirit of truthfulness.

On Monday the prizes were distributed amongst the boys attending the Grocers' Company's School, on Hackney-downs; the Lord Mayor, who was accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, distributed the prizes to the boys of Aske's Middle-Class Schools at Pepy's-road, Hatcham; and Mr. R. Field, chairman of the Council and Mayor of Reigate, turned the first turf of the new schools of the Royal Asylum of St. Anne's at Redhill.

Earl Fitzwilliam presided over an influential county meeting on behalf of the Yorkshire School for the Blind, at York, which is in want of funds, was founded half a century ago, and the present meeting was the jubilee. The speakers were Earl Fitzwilliam, the Archbishop of York, the High Sheriff of Yorkshire, the Dean of York, Lord Feversham, and others.

Lord Alcester, in distributing the prizes to the successful students of the Royal Naval School at New-cross on Tuesday, urged the importance of a knowledge of foreign languages to officers of the Navy. The annual distribution of prizes at the Royal School for Officers' Daughters, Lansdown, Bath, on the same day, was attended by Lord and Lady Napier of Magdala. His Lordship urged the importance of the higher education of women, now that the professions were being thrown open to them.

The Rochester Bridge Wardens, who have control of a very wealthy trust, have resolved, with the sanction of the Charity Commissioners, to spend £20,000 of their surplus funds for purposes of middle-class education in Maidstone and Rochester; £3000 for the embankment of Strood, £3500 for a pier at Chatham, £1200 for a pier at Rochester, and other large sums on improved bridges across the Medway.

On St. Peter's Day, the new chapel at Blundell's School, Tiverton, was consecrated by the Bishop of Exeter, a former member of the school. The Bishop presided at the annual dinner, at which there was a large gathering of Old Boys.

The School Board for London discussed on the 19th inst. at considerable length the propriety of adding elementary social economy to the subjects which may be taught. After some opposition, a recommendation from the School Management Committee favourable to the teaching of the subject was agreed to. The question of teachers' salaries gave rise to a long discussion. It was resolved to appeal against the decision of the Queen's Bench Division in the case of the London School Board v. Wright. It was reported that Maurice Larcombe, who held the Drapers' Company No. 4 Scholarship, had obtained a scholarship at Queen's College, Cambridge.—Yesterday week the 274th school erected by the London School Board in King and Queen-street, East-street, Walworth, was opened, under the presidency of the Rev. G. M. Murphy.

The council of the Royal Colonial Institute have decided to offer from time to time prizes for essays or papers on colonial and Indian subjects, so that the preparation of the papers may cause the competitors to become acquainted with the circumstances and resources of the countries in which many of them will have to seek their future homes. The subject selected for the first competition is—"The Australasian Colonies: Their History and Present Position: Geographical, Political, and Commercial." Prizes of £20, £15, £10, and £5 respectively

are offered for the four best essays, the first prize being open to members of any University in the United Kingdom, and who have been so for not more than three years, the other prizes being intended for pupils of any school in the United Kingdom. The competitions are open to both sexes.

The half-yearly general meeting of the members of the College of Preceptors was held last Saturday at the college, in Queen-square, Bloomsbury, under the presidency of Mr. Mason. The chairman, in submitting the report for adoption, congratulated the members on the substantial progress and increased prosperity of the corporation. The report was unanimously adopted. Of the candidates examined during the half year, 2500 were boys and 2280 girls.

A large party of the relatives and friends of the Thames Nautical Training College went down to Greenhithe on the 19th inst. by special steamer to witness the distribution of prizes. Sir G. H. Chambers, the chairman of the committee, presided.—Admiral Sir Astley Cooper Key on the same day distributed the prizes to the cadets on board the training-ship Britannia, at Dartmouth, awarded at the final examination.—The Hon. Algernon Egerton, M.P., distributed the prizes on board the school-ship Conway, in the Mersey, on Tuesday.

BENEVOLENCE AND SELF-HELP.

The Goldsmiths' Company have given £200 to the Clergy Orphan Corporation.

The Prince of Wales has accepted the post of vice-patron to the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest. The receipts of the public festival, at which the Prince presided on June 1, have reached £5082.

The bazaar held at Beckenham, in aid of Miss Marsh's Convalescent Home at Blackrock, Brighton, announced in our last issue, realised, we are glad to learn, more than £400 for the building fund. Lord Sharncliffe opened the bazaar on the 18th inst., and amongst the ladies and gentlemen who attended were the Dowager Duchess of Manchester, Lady Caroline Legge, Lady Stapleton, and Lady Inglis. Further contributions to the building fund will be gratefully received by Miss Marsh, Feltwell Rectory, Brandon, Norfolk; or by the Rev. F. Chalmers, hon. sec., Nonington Vicarage, Wingham, Kent.

The Mayor of Sunderland has received a communication from Mr. Arthur Buckhouse, West Hendon House, Sunderland, announcing a donation of £200 towards the proposed Convalescent Home, to be established in commemoration of the disaster in the Victoria Hall.

The Duchess of Westminster, accompanied by the Duke, on Monday laid the foundation-stone of the new parochial buildings, Little Grosvenor-street, W., which are intended to comprise a block of model dwellings, a dispensary, a large room for meetings, workmen's club, youths' club, gymnasium, lending library, parochial kitchen, and a room for parish work. The Duke of Westminster has given the site; and the requisite funds, some £14,000, have been nearly collected.

The Exhibition of Art-Needlework, recently held at De Vere-gardens by Mrs. Petrie on behalf of the funds of the Kensington branch of the House Boy Brigade, resulted in an addition to the funds of the society of £75.

On Monday the Mansion House Committee of the Fund for Relieving the Distressed Crofters and Cottagers in the Highlands of Scotland held their final meeting—the Lord Mayor in the chair—when it was reported that £5159 had been subscribed, £3315 expended in the distressed districts, and £1432 in the purchase of seeds, leaving a balance, after paying expenses, of £216. In the island of Lewis 2781 families had been relieved, and it was decided to send a portion of the balance to the committee if necessary. The herring fishery was stated to be unproductive in some districts, and relief would be needed if there was no alteration before August. The Caledonian Society of London had remitted a further donation of £76 to the Mansion House Fund.—Miss Macleod, who has been two years in the Highland settlement, Robeson county, North Carolina, is on a visit to the West Highlands of Scotland, with a view to induce the poorer crofters to emigrate. She states that the Highlanders in North Carolina are prepared to receive fifty crofters and their families, and have made arrangements to support them for the first year. The Hon. D. P. McEachran, who represents Robeson county in the State Council, will take ten families, and the remainder will be located with other friends.

Admiral Ryder, president of the executive committee of the Atlanta Fund, has announced an increase of 50 per cent in the allowances to the widows of men who were lost in her Majesty's ship Atlanta, which will virtually place them on the same footing as if they were under the proposed new naval scale for widows of seamen and marines. The allowances for children remain unaltered.

The anniversary festival of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants was held on the 18th inst. at the Freemasons' Tavern—Mr. Theodore Fry, M.P., in the chair. The association, founded in 1872, maintains an orphanage at Derby and an orphan fund for providing pecuniary help to orphans at their own homes. The other funds of the association are self-supporting, but the orphan fund depends to a considerable extent on the contributions of the public. Contributions to the amount of about £850 were announced.

The Earl and Countess of Aberdeen, on Saturday last distributed the prizes in connection with the Alderman-street Sunday-School Flower Show, at the St. Pancras Vestry-Hall. The Rev. Dr. Oswald Dykes (chairman) stated that they were then celebrating the seventh annual show, and that a great improvement had been made in the way the flowers were cultivated since last year.—Lady Northcote, in the absence of Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., M.P., distributed the prizes at the third annual flower show of the Kensington and North Brixton Floricultural Society, held on the 19th inst. in the grounds of the Rev. Canon Hussey.

Dr. Vaughan, Dean of Llandaff and Master of the Temple, preached on Sunday evening last at St. Sepulchre's, Snow-hill, on behalf of the Working Lads' Institute, of which the Lord Mayor is the president. For some years a small house in Whitechapel has served for an institute for the working lads of the east of London. A piece of land adjoining Whitechapel station has now, however, been purchased, and the committee of the institute are desirous of erecting thereon a commodious structure, with class-rooms, reading-rooms, &c., for a thousand boys. A further sum of £5000 is required for this purpose. Contributions in aid of the fund are received by Mr. Henry Hill, jun., 38, Bow-lane; or by the secretary of the institute, 1, Finsbury-circus, E.C.

Mr. Arthur Cohen, M.P., spoke at a large public meeting at Rotherhithe on the 18th inst. to celebrate the opening of the Eleventh Branch of the Metropolitan Provident Medical Association. This branch will be governed by its own members, and be entirely self-supporting.

The forty-ninth annual excursion of the friends and patron of the Metropolitan Beer and Wine Trade Asylum and Benevolent Fund took place to Hastings and St. Leonards on Thursday.

EARL GRANVILLE MAKES A
STATEMENT IN THE
HOUSE OF LORDS

THE LORD CHANCELLOR

IN THE LORDS

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY
ATTACKS IT.SIR S. NORTHCOTE 'PRESSES
FOR INFORMATION

THE PREMIER

THE CHANCELLOR
OF THE
EXCHEQUER

IN THE COMMONS

THE ATTORNEY
GENERAL
ON THE POINTS
OF LAW

THE SUEZ CANAL QUESTION IN PARLIAMENT.—(SEE "THE SILENT MEMBER.")

NIDDERDALE.

Taken as a whole, the river Nidd is, perhaps, as interesting as any Yorkshire river; there is much variety in the scenery through which it takes its course, the stern ruggedness of Great Whernside, from which it begins its smiling journey, through actual Nidderdale to the limestone heights of Knaresborough, crowned by the castle of John of Gaunt.

The reputation of its Dropping or petrifying well has spoilt Knaresborough; but its church, with the tombs of the Slingsbys, and its castle, built on the site of the Norman stronghold which sheltered the murderers of Archbishop Thomas-a-Becket, have interesting memories.

Two other memories are stamped on Knaresborough. Ursula Souldikes, better known as Mother Shipton, was born at Knaresborough, in 1478. Her mother was a very young girl named Agatha, and her father was said to be the Evil

One. Ursula seems to have been proud of her parentage; she married Toby Shipton, and soon became famous as a fortune-tell and predictor of events. The other memory belongs to St. Robert's, or rather to St. Giles's, Cave, in which dwelt in the twelfth century the hermit St. Robert; he is said to have been buried in the small chapel here early in the thirteenth century. But though the place is named from him St. Robert's Cave, a much more recent and painful interest clings to it; for here, in January, 1745, Daniel Clarke was murdered, if not by the hand, yet probably in the presence of Eugene Aram. Though Knaresborough stands beside the Nidd, it is not in Nidderdale, which actually begins at Dacre Banks.

The chief town of this charming valley is Pateley Bridge; and its comfortable inn, the King's Arms, is an excellent resting-place from whence to explore Nidderdale. Before the North-Eastern Railway came to Pateley Bridge, the dale

must have been a strange old-world region, full of the ancient customs and manners and words which are still to be met with at the other end of the valley.* The dialect on the heath-covered moor between Angram and Middlesmoor teems with Norse and Danish words; I am not sure whether any of the old-fashioned "chimleys" still exist, through which the dalesmen used to count the stars as they sat "roond t'harstan," but all sorts of ancient implements linger both in the farmyard, and in the scattered stone dwellings which make up the villages of Nidderdale. There are occasional groups of houses at Ramsgill, at Lofthouse, and at Middlesmoor; but there are other so-called villages of widely separated cottages dotted up and down the sides of the valley. At Pateley Bridge, from the old churchyard on the hill, we

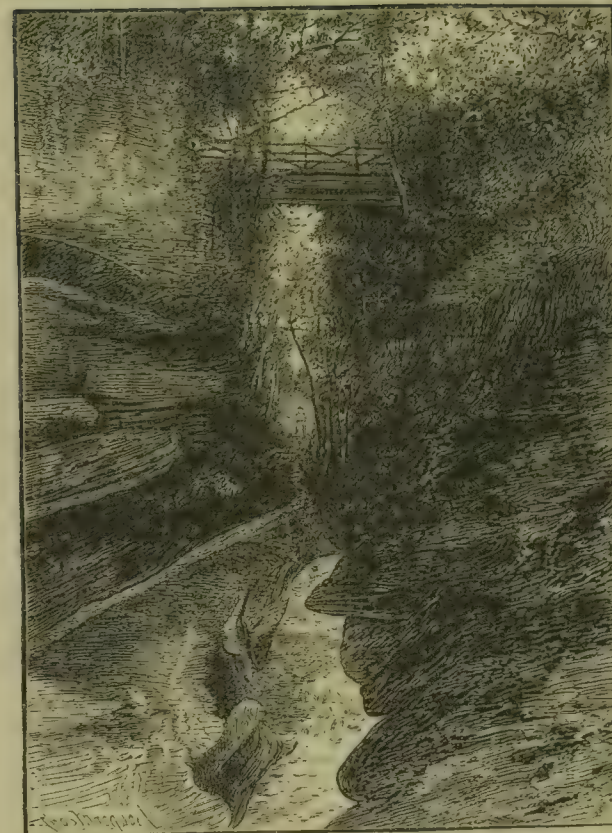
* See Lucas's "Studies in Nidderdale," published by Thomas Thorpe, Pateley Bridge.



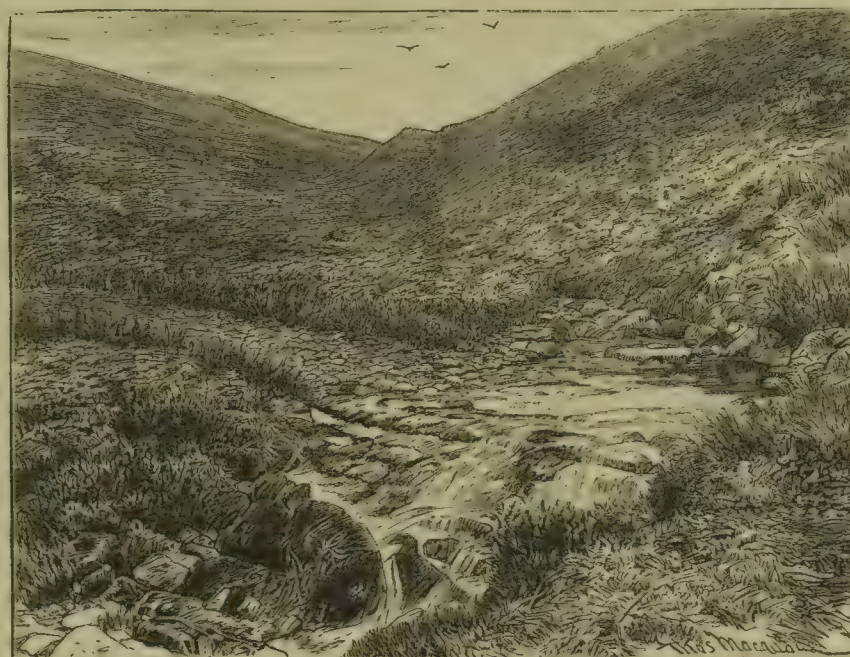
KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE.



BRIDGE OVER HOW STEAN BECK.



GORGE OF HOW STEAN BECK.



NEAR GOYDON POT HOLE.

glen between steep pine-covered banks; and following the upward path through a sort of hanging wood, with huge moss-covered stones perched among the trees and underwood, we reached the lofty cliff that ends Ravensgill—over which the beck comes tumbling in a bright waterfall into the stony bed below.

Some way to the left is the lofty Scar called Guyscliff. From the top of the ridge there is a grand view over Yorkshire, and from a point called the Three Gaps one looks up the valley of the Nidd. Deep in the woods below the Scar is the Tarn, a most weird yet lovely place.

Only a short drive from Pateley Bridge are the famous Brimham Rocks, which we had seen on our way up Ravensgill, frowning over the edge of the cliff on which they stand. These are strangely shaped masses of gritstone, once supposed to be the works of the Druids. The action of the weather and of time has worn them into grotesque forms; on some of them are rock basins, and there are several marvellously poised rocking stones. They have various names—the Oyster-shell rock, the Monkey-face, and another is the Boat rock



GOWTHWAITE HALL, WHERE EUGENE ARAM TAUGHT.

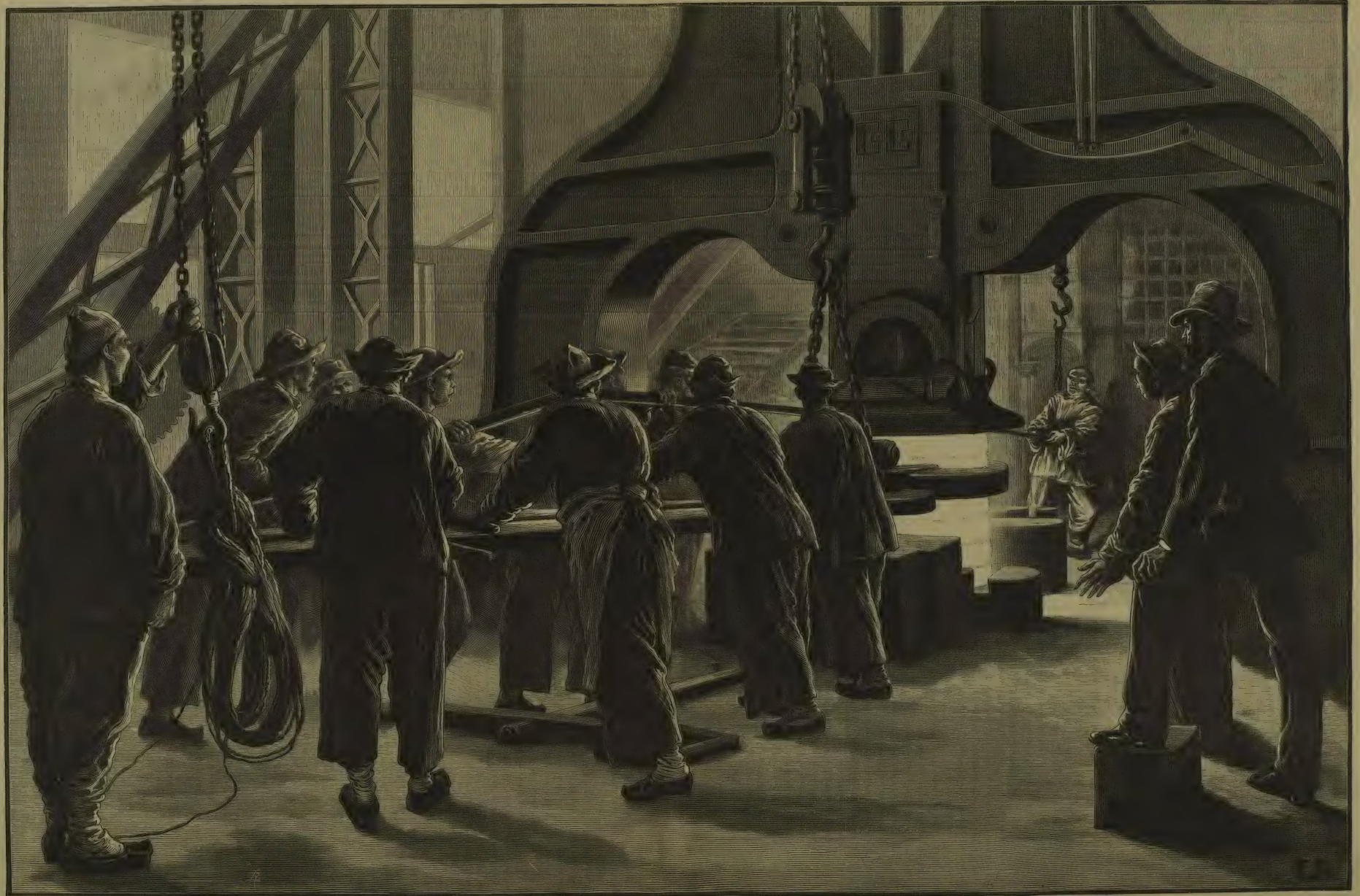


GUYSLIPPE TARN.



THE BABOON'S HEAD, BRIMHAM ROCKS.

SKETCHES IN NIDDERDALE, YORKSHIRE.



WAR PREPARATIONS IN CHINA: WELDING A COIL FOR A GREAT GUN AT THE ARSENAL, SHANGHAI.

The Idol is perhaps the most striking: it stands on so small a base that it is wonderful how, in so exposed a site, it should not have been swept from its pedestal. The overgrowth of heather and wild plants adds much to the colour of these dark stones.

Then the lead-mines of Greenhow Hill, and Stump Cross caverns, with their beautiful stalactites, are worth seeing, but the highest interest of Nidderdale lies at its farther end. Only eight miles from Pateley Bridge is Middlesmoor, but there is plenty to see on the way. Just before we reached the wild glen I have spoken of we came to Gowthwaite Hall. In this quaint old manor-house Eugene Aram taught his first group of scholars. Not far beyond we came to some clusters of grey thatched cottages nestling under trees beside the river. This is Ramskill, and in a corner of the churchyard we saw a ruined gable. This is a memory of mediæval days, when the famous Roger de Mowbray divided the chief part of Nidderdale between the monks of Fountains and those of Byland. Ramskill was a Grange appertaining to the last monastery, and this gable was part of a Cistercian chapel.

Eugene Aram was born in this charming sequestered village, and lived here till after his marriage and the birth of his first child; then he went to keep school at Knaresborough, and became acquainted with Richard Houseman and Daniel Clarke. As we drove along, our driver pointed out to us a hole below the road from which the river was rushing out with some violence. He told us that from this point, just below Lott-house Parsonage, the Nidd disappears for about two miles, when it enters an extraordinary chasm in the rock, called Goydon-Pot-Hole; its dry bed can, however, be traced, and is sometimes partly filled by mountain streams. Soon after passing this point, we reached the bridge over the How Stean Beck, and a few minutes' further drive brought us to a halt.

We left our carriage and went into the grounds, in which is this marvellous rift. At first we walked alongside of the beck, which flows widely over huge sheets of limestone marble; but soon we climbed a steep path, and came out on a narrow shelf cut on the side of the cliff, beside us was the How Stean Beck, flowing darkly about 70 feet below in a narrow rift not more than ten feet wide; from either side of the cliff, trees in their exquisite spring leafage stretched interlacing arms, while the sides of the marvellous chasm, brown and green and gold, with fern and lichen, showed rents and cracks and huge fissures, as if some mighty yawn of Nature had violently parted the stone. We wandered on beside it for at least a mile; now crossing it on a slender rustic bridge, and then recrossing it by one so high in air as the path mounted to the top of the cliff, that it made one dizzy to look down into the furious swishing water below, for How Stean Beck seems impatient of its narrow lodging, and hurries impetuously onward. It was to us the most marvellous freak of nature we had seen in Yorkshire, and when we saw it the path beside us was gemmed with primroses, forget-me-nots, and delicate bladderfern.

Beyond Middlesmoor the country becomes far wilder and grander, and we were told that in settled weather the pass between Great Whenside and Buckden Pike was worth exploring: this would have brought us to Kettlewell, beside the Wharfe and the views over Wharfedale from the top of the pass are magnificent. We drove home through Loffhouse, a beautiful little village where there is good fishing and a most picturesque view from the bridge of the river flowing over slabs of grey marble. Then there is Doubergill Glen, with many other points of interest. A week may be spent in Nidderdale, and yet the beauties of the valley will not have been exhausted.

KATHARINE S. MACQUOID.

CHINESE MANUFACTURE OF GREAT GUNS.

We have now great reason to hope and trust that the calamity of a war between France and China, on account of the French attack upon Tonquin, will be averted. A despatch received last week in Paris confirmed the news of the departure of Li Hung Chang for Tientsin. This fact is regarded as evincing pacific intentions on the part of the Chinese Government, since it is believed that Li Hung Chang's successor in the Governorship of the Southern Provinces is a partisan of peace. The recent visit of the Marquis of Tseng to Paris and his presence at the military review on the 14th inst., have also been viewed with satisfaction. It is reported that M. Tricou, the French Minister to China, has arrived at Peking, and his instructions are to deal with the Imperial Government in an amicable spirit. For the sake of British commercial interests, which must suffer considerably from war carried on by a strong naval power on the coast of China, our own Government will not fail to use its good offices to prevent a decided rupture. China, moreover, is now prepared, by the recent improvements of her land and sea forces, and particularly of their armament, to meet an attack with formidable means of resistance. We lately published an illustration, drawn by our own Artist at Shanghai, of the Chinese officials at the Arsenal there examining a large store of newly-made rifles, and superintending the operation of packing them to be sent to the military camp. The manufacture of heavy ordnance, twenty-ton guns, for the ships and forts, has long been studied and practised by the Chinese Government; and, in the large Engraving presented for our Extra Supplement this week, the process of welding a coil of wrought iron for one of these great guns, by a method similar to that in use at Woolwich Arsenal, is represented by the same Artist. It should be observed that the guns on board the Chinese corvette Ting Yuen, which were tried last week with a crew of German sailors, at Swinemünde on the Baltic, were manufactured by the Krupp firm, at Essen. The vessel herself was built and equipped at Stettin. A surprising effect was produced when the four big guns were fired together. The cannon being loaded, the turrets, for safety's sake, were cleared of the men, and then, at a given signal, one solitary gunner pulled at the ends of four long cords attached to a bar. The shock was tremendous, and the damage in smashed glass, wrenched off iron rails, and disturbed coal bunkers, was immense. "Truly a triumph of German industry," writes the naval correspondent of the *North German Gazette*; but it might have happened at Shanghai.

Dr. George MacDonald and his family, assisted by a few friends, gave a costume recital of "Macbeth" last Saturday afternoon at Steinway Hall. Dr. MacDonald's rendering of the part of Macbeth was powerful, and decidedly unconventional; of the other impersonations the most notable was that of Lady Macbeth by Miss MacDonald.

In our recent illustration of the trial of various life-saving apparatus in the Serpentine, in connection with the International Fisheries Exhibition, a conspicuous group was that of two men and a woman sent into the water, equipped with buoyant dresses, by the aid of which they could float in perfect safety. We omitted to state that these dresses were the "Kredemmon Patent Life-Saving Garments," manufactured by F. Wentworth and Co., Bury-place and Museum-street, Bloomsbury.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.

A charter of incorporation has been granted to Bangor. The Daphne has been completely floated, and lies outside the Govan Dock.

A prize cup has been offered by the King of the Netherlands to the Royal Yacht Squadron.

Admiral the Hon. A. Duncombe has remitted 20 per cent of the rents of his agricultural tenants due last Lady Day.

Yesterday week the temporary art-museum at the Royal Dublin Society House, Kildare-street, was opened to the public.

The State apartments of Windsor Castle will be open to the public on and after Monday next.

M. Le Maout will give a lecture on French literature this (Saturday) evening, at St. George's Hall.

Mr. Ernest Baggallay, a son of Lord Justice Baggallay, has been appointed a revising barrister for East Kent, in place of the late Mr. R. E. Turner.

Mr. H. Joseph was on Tuesday elected to the Common Council, to fill the vacancy for the Ward of Cordwainer, caused by the death of Mr. Deputy Lowman Taylor.

The ship Eastern Monarch, Captain White, left Glasgow for Townsville, Queensland, on the 20th inst., with 193 families, 113 single women, and 153 single men.

On the 19th inst. the Chiswick, Turnham-green, and District Horticultural Society had an evening fête in the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens, Chiswick.

The fifty-first meeting of the British Medical Association will be held at Liverpool next week, the jubilee having been celebrated last year at Worcester.

A Building Trades Exhibition upon a large scale was opened on the 19th inst. at St. James's Hall, Manchester, by the Mayor of the city (Mr. Alderman Hopkinson).

A rifle competition, open to all the troops, will be held in the Curragh Camp on Tuesday, Aug. 7, and three following days, for money prizes, amounting in the aggregate to £500.

The requisite amount (£7500) has been subscribed to endow the Chair of Physics at Yorkshire College, Leeds, as a memorial of the late Lord F. Cavendish, who was Chairman of the Council of the College.

The annual meeting of the Cobden Club takes place to-day (Saturday) at the rooms of the Century Club, Pall-mall-court, Mr. T. B. Potter, M.P., hon. secretary and treasurer of the club, in the chair.

Last Saturday the foundation-stone of a new sea-wall was laid at Crickieth, South Carmarvonshire, amid general festivities. This is the first step towards a scheme for the opening of a new watering-place on Cardigan Bay.

Sir E. W. Watkin, M.P., in presiding at the half-yearly meeting of the Metropolitan Railway Company on the 19th inst., pointed out that during the six months 36,753,321 passengers had been carried without a single accident.

Baroness Burdett-Coutts on Tuesday distributed the prizes gained at the recent annual exhibition of the Highgate Horticultural Society, which was held in her Ladyship's grounds at Holly Lodge, Highgate.

At the annual ordinary general meeting of the United Telephone Company on Tuesday Mr. James Brand, the chairman, mentioned that recently a conversation had been held between Chicago and New York, a distance of over 1000 miles.

Lord Rosebery was presented with the freedom of the city of Edinburgh last Saturday afternoon. The ceremony took place in the hall of the University of the United Presbyterian College, and there were nearly 3000 persons in attendance.

On the recommendation of the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, 480 silver medals "for long service and good conduct" have been awarded to as many non-commissioned officers and men of the Army.

Nothing is sacred to thieves, any more than to sappers. One day last week a thief succeeded in gaining access to the private room of Mr. Justice Kay in the Royal Courts of Justice, and stole a pair of boots and some handkerchiefs belonging to the learned Judge.

The Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours have taken studios in Great Ormond-street for the purposes of the schools they are about to establish. The instruction in these schools will be wholly gratuitous, but it is not intended for any but those who have, to begin with, a fair proficiency in draughtsmanship.

The National Carnation and Picotee Society's Southern Show was held in the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens at South Kensington on Tuesday, and there was a large and brilliant collection. Sir Trevor Lawrence, M.P., sent orchids of the highest class and rarest beauty, in respect of which a gold medal was awarded.

A large number of medical gentlemen and students met on the 19th inst. at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Sir Sydney Waterlow presiding, to consider a proposal to form a Volunteer Ambulance Corps for the metropolis. A provisional committee to enrol the proposed corps was formed, and a large number of students gave in their names as members.

Replying to a memorial recently forwarded by members of the medical profession in Ireland in reference to the knighthood conferred on one of their body, the Lord Lieutenant writes pointing out that the bestowal of honours by the Crown cannot be made the subject of discussion between him and any public body.

Eight hundred ministers were present at the opening sitting of the 140th annual conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection at Hull on Tuesday, when the Reverend Thomas McCullagh was elected president; the Rev. R. N. Young being chosen secretary for the third time. We shall give the new President's portrait next week.

On Tuesday afternoon the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress entertained the members of the American and Canadian teams, headed respectively by Colonel Howard and Colonel Otter, at luncheon at the Mansion House. With them were some members of the English Eight, including Earl Waldegrave, Colonel Walrond, M.P., Sir Henry Hallford, Major Scriven, Major Young, and Major Humphry.

Captain William J. Hicks, of Calstock, Cornwall, was publicly presented at the Plymouth Guildhall on Monday by Mr. William Luscombe, borough magistrate and French Consul for the district, with a silver medal and certificate from the French Government in recognition of his bravery in rescuing, at the peril of his own life, five of the shipwrecked crew of a French vessel off the south coast of Ireland, near Queenstown, during a gale in October, 1880.

In London last week 2559 births and 1781 deaths were registered. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 43 below, while the deaths exceeded by 87, the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years. The deaths included 77 from measles, 32 from scarlet fever, 21 from diphtheria, 28 from whooping-cough, 1 from typhus, 10 from enteric fever, 351 from diarrhoea and dysentery, 7 from simple cholera, and not one either from smallpox or ill-defined forms of continued fever.

Speech Day was celebrated by the scholars of Christ's Hospital Schools, Newgate-street, on Wednesday afternoon, in the presence of a large and distinguished company; and, after the orations by the senior scholars, the Lord Mayor distributed the prizes.

A handsome pastoral staff was on Wednesday presented to the first Bishop of Newcastle, Dr. Wilberforce. It has been subscribed for by the clergy and laity of the diocese, and cost £260. The Hon. F. R. Grey made the presentation in the presence of numerous clergymen, laymen, and ladies.

At Glasgow £700 has been subscribed for the testimonial to Sir Archibald Alison. Of this sum £300 only will be required for the claymore which Sir Archibald has preferred, and a deputation was appointed to wait on Lady Alison to ascertain her wishes as to the disposal of the rest of the money.

By a majority of 17 to 14, the Metropolitan Board of Works have decided to permit the Sunday League to let chairs within the cricket-ground in Finsbury Park during the playing of the band on Sundays. It has also been decided that a portion of the Peckham-rye-common should be set apart for the holding of public meetings.

M. Waddington, the newly-appointed French Ambassador to the Court of St. James's, arrived at the French Embassy, Albert Gate, from Paris, on Monday night. A large number of distinguished persons—among whom were the Marquis of Salisbury, Mr. W. E. Forster, M.P., and Lord Turo—called upon his Excellency on Tuesday morning. In the afternoon his Excellency called upon Lord Granville at the Foreign Office; and later in the day paid a visit to Mr. Gladstone at his official residence in Downing-street. In the evening his Excellency was present at a dinner party given by Lord Granville.

With a view of drawing public attention to the advantages of British Columbia, a pamphlet is about to be issued by the Canadian Government with reference to the resources of the country, its mineral deposits, and its timber forests. The Canadian Government is prepared to give a bonus of £2 to every adult of and exceeding sixteen years of age on arrival at Victoria, British Columbia, on proof to the agent of the Government at that place that he intends to settle in the province. Forms of application for the bonus may be obtained from the Canadian Government Offices.—Sir Charles Tupper, the High Commissioner for Canada, has received the following cablegram from the Minister of Agriculture: "Common and agricultural labourers wanted Manitoba and throughout Dominion. Pacific works in West and North Lake Superior require 10,000 labourers."

The following in order of merit are declared by the Civil Service Commissioners to be the successful candidates at the examination held in June and July, 1883, for admission to the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich:—A. G. Chuckerbutty, F. J. Pert, C. H. Enthoven, H. B. Jones, C. Battiscombe, A. J. S. Willett, F. M. Medlicott, A. S. W. Whitehouse, H. E. Whish, G. D. Close, R. P. Lee, R. F. Edwards, C. M. Maunsell, R. T. Dixon, C. P. Decie, H. R. Gale, H. D. White-Thomson, C. O. Perceval, J. S. Gooch, G. L. Fanshawe, A. W. Money, H. F. Vanderzee, T. E. W. Bridgwood, R. S. Macgowan, A. J. Huleatt, W. H. Boyd, F. L. Lloyd, E. A. Campbell, R. F. Sorsbie, L. E. B. Dykes, F. Prendergast, E. H. Davis, F. H. Young, D. R. Lambert, J. W. Reid, S. W. W. Blacker, E. F. Hall, H. E. Marsh, J. F. N. Birch, A. W. Edmonds, G. S. Ogg, W. B. Norwood, H. L. Tennant, J. R. Stansfield, A. S. Hoole, T. E. Marshall, G. R. Lamb, T. R. C. Hudson, T. A. H. Bigge, E. Huddleston.

The annual business meeting of the Social Science Association was held on Tuesday at the rooms of the society, Adam-street, Adelphi, and was presided over by Mr. Hastings, M.P., who, in moving the adoption of the report, said that the year had been a very successful one, and some good work had been done—notably by the conferences which had been held on the subject of pauper children and the administration of hospitals, out of which, it was believed, important results would follow. The report was adopted. Mr. Hastings having resigned the presidency of the council, which office he has held for fifteen years, was elected permanent vice-president, and Sir Richard Temple was appointed to the presidency. The following were elected presidents of the departments for the Huddersfield meeting, from Oct. 3 to Oct. 10, the arrangements for which were said to be very far advanced:—Jurisprudence, Mr. W. Barber, Q.C.; Repression of Crime Section, Mr. Howard Vincent; Education, Mr. F. S. Powell; Health, Mr. T. P. Teale; Economy and Trade, Professor Thorold Rogers, M.P. The Presidency of the Art Department has not yet been filled.

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Sophy, huddled upon the sofa, with her little hands hiding her pretty face, answered only by her sobs.

THE CANON'S WARD.

BY JAMES PAYN,

AUTHOR OF "BY PROXY," "HIGH SPIRITS," "THICKER THAN WATER," ETC.

CHAPTER VII.

AUNT MARIA'S HEADACHE.



IS generally understood that, among the higher classes at least, man is the Worker and woman the Player. Except in the rare cases of his helpmate being an author or an artist, he is doubtless the breadwinner and general provider; but woman also has her work to do, often quite as hard work as is done "in the City," or in "the dusky purlicues of the law," and much more continuous. The Lawyer, when he mounts his cob, may leave black care behind him; the Merchant, when he sits down to his afternoon rubber, may forget his anxieties; but their spouses have no such relaxations, and have the objects of their

solicitude always under their eye. Some of them are so ill-advised as to make their husbands sharers of their own proper burden, and, when he comes home to his well-earned meal, to vex him with stories of this or that gone amiss in matters which it is not in his power to remedy. But, as a general rule, women keep their domestic troubles to themselves, and because they do not speak of them men are apt to underrate their importance. Yet, what is the management of a staff of clerks, with even a forger or two among them, compared with the control of a band of wild boys or giddy girls, such as are often as the "apple of our eye" to us? What is the presentiment of evil in business affairs, compared with the possibilities of wrong-doing in Jack or Jane, of which the mother's prescient heart has given her only too sure a warning? To wait, to watch, to speak, and to act (but only at the proper time); to be vigilant against those who, though no adversaries, have the power to wound beyond any foeman's blow, these things fall to the lot of women.

It is true that Miss Maria was no mother; but the responsibilities of her position, as regards Sophy, were the same as though she had been her child, while her difficulties were even

greater than she was aware of. The Canon knew little or nothing of this. His sister, who understood him thoroughly, spared him all such troubles, as though she had been his wife. He had his edition of Milton and his Concordance to think about; he had a large correspondence with sympathising friends; and he imagined himself to be a man "full of affairs," who had quite the average share of troubles. Save for the absence of his son, however, they were but crumpled rose-leaves. The very breath of heaven, thanks to his sister's care, was not suffered to visit his cheek too roughly.

At this very moment, when the cigars have been produced at his pleasant Trinity rooms (for under the influence of the genial weed the talk grows deeper and wider, and carries the thought with it), and while his part is but to encourage guests who need no spur, Miss Maria has another and less agreeable task before her. The girl who calls her aunt, and whom she loves more dearly far than most women love their nieces, is alone with her in the drawing-room for a few minutes, previously to their going up stairs to dress for the ball.

"Sophy, I have word or two to say to you."

"Yes, Aunt Maria."

She looked up with such a sweet smile of simplicity and assent that it almost put to flight Aunt Maria's intended "jobation."

"Whatever imprudence the girl commits," she says to herself, "she has certainly no thought of wrongdoing, nor can I think her capable of duplicity. If she were conscious of having done anything seriously amiss she would certainly look frightened."

There was not a flaw in this logic, only the logician did not understand how very much more frightened Sophy had been during the last half hour than she was now. When one has had a loaded pistol close to one's ear for a little, the production of one that is not loaded can be borne with comparative equanimity.

"What has happened to-night, Sophy, has distressed me, and I am sure my dear brother also, exceedingly."

Sophy's beautiful eyes expressed a mild surprise.

"Is it possible that you can be unaware of what happened on the river? That that very forward young man, Mr. Perry, had the bad taste to drink your health in public, under our very windows?"

"And was that such very bad taste, Aunt Maria?" inquired the young girl, demurely.

"Pray, pray, Sophy, do not treat this matter with lightness. It was most infamous taste. It would have been bad taste even if he had been engaged to you, which, as you well know, can never, never happen."

Sophy smiled; it was a very different smile from her former one; it had confidence in it, but also sadness.

"Well, at all events for a very long time to come," continued Aunt Maria, "there is no possibility of your marrying him; should you ever do so it will be in direct antagonism both to myself and your guardian, and I don't think we have deserved of you to have—I do not say our wishes only, but our most serious convictions—set at naught."

"You have deserved nothing of me but love and gratitude," said Sophy, with the tears in her eyes. "Whatever happens, I shall never forget how much I owe you."

"And yet you propose to repay us with disobedience?" observed Aunt Maria, drily. Then, as if unable to maintain so stern a tone, even for a moment, she answered gently, "It is not for our sakes, Sophy, as you well know; but for your own, that we are so strenuous upon this point. When you come of age you will be independent of us, and can do as you like; there are many persons who under the same circumstances would be glad enough to get rid of such a responsibility as you must needs be to us. But when you leave us, you will still be in our hearts; your future will affect us as much as your present does at this hour, only we shall no longer have the power to shape it. Even now, if your guardian knew as much as I do—how often Mr. Perry comes here, how often you make excuses for meeting him elsewhere—it would make him miserable. And yet it is not for his sake, but for your own, that I entreat you to give up this man."

Sophy, huddled upon the sofa, with her little hands hiding her pretty face, answered only by her sobs.

"It is better for you to cry now, my dear," continued Aunt Maria, with a tender tremor nevertheless in her own voice, "than when things are past crying for. I heard to-night some talk of Mr. Perry, which those who uttered it little thought had any personal interest for me. He is a man of bad temper, as well as of bad habits; not a favourite even with those who know him best, and among whom he has gained some pre-eminence: he is a 'good oar,' it seems, and that is all; a poor recommendation for a partner in life. I own he is very handsome, but you will not think him so when he frowns at you. Such men soon get tired of their pretty playthings. Indeed, I have noticed that of late weeks his manner to yourself is not what it used to be: he takes less trouble to please you, perhaps because he feels sure of you. I earnestly trust that he has as yet no ground for such a confidence."

Sophy moaned.

"You are not engaged to him," put in the other quickly.

"No, Aunt Maria, no," murmured the girl.

"Then part from him, I beseech you, while there is yet time. People have already begun to talk of you. If you don't believe me, ask Henny Helford; she will tell you the truth, and give you good advice besides. It is most painful to me to speak like this; but, Sophy, it is better so than that my

brother should speak to you. I doubt whether I am right in concealing your conduct from him; but I know that it would vex him so. He is the kindest of men, but his noble heart revolts at anything like duplicity or underhand doings."

"Don't tell him—oh! don't tell him," pleaded Sophy, earnestly.

"Well, then, for this once, and trusting to see signs of amendment in your behaviour, I won't," replied Aunt Maria.

She said this with quite a magnanimous air; but the fact was, she had nothing very definite to tell, only certain small misdoings on Sophy's part, which, feeling herself to blame for having permitted, she was not very anxious to reveal.

"I don't wish to speak of my own troubles in the matter," she continued, after a pause: "but I can't say what I suffered this evening when I saw Mr. Perry with that great flagon in his hand leering at us, like somebody wicked in the Heathen Mythology. He had had too much to drink already; and that's the truth, Sophy. And then to think that he will be at the ball to-night, most probably intoxicated. Now, Sophy, do promise me that you will not dance with that man."

"I will promise you that, Aunt Maria," was the unexpected reply; "for I will not go to the ball at all."

"But, my dear, that will look extremely odd: indeed, it may be said that you were afraid to meet Mr. Perry, which will be worse than anything."

"I am not all afraid of meeting Mr. Perry," said Sophy quietly, "but I had rather not go."

"But so many people will be expecting us, my dear! What excuse can you possibly make?"

"None at all," said Sophy, mustering up a little smile.

"It is you who must be the excuse, Aunt Maria. You said you had a headache, you know, when you left my guardian rooms."

"But it's gone now," exclaimed Aunt Maria, simply.

"I can bring it back in half a minute," cried Sophy, and, springing from the sofa, she sat down at the piano and thundered the March from "Athalie," which made Aunt Maria, who detested loud music of any kind, put her hands to her ears, and very literally sue for peace.

"You have really given me a headache now," she cried "you naughty girl!"

"That is because you are so dreadfully conscientious, dear Aunt Maria; it is the reward of truth. Nor is it a mere selfish advantage; for now I, who have no headache, can honestly say that you have got one." Then, dropping her light tone, she flew to the other's side, and murmured, caressingly, "I am so sorry, darling Auntie; but it will soon go off, and we will both stay at home together, and have a cosy evening, won't we?"

At that moment there was a ring at the door bell.

Sophy turned pale; it is not only the wicked who "flee when no man pursueth," but also the wilful and the weak.

No man was pursuing her, as it turned out; but the girl thought one might be. It was an intense relief when the servant announced Miss Helford.

Henrietta, called for love and euphony, Henny Helford was Sophy's dearest friend, and a near neighbour. She had come in by appointment, though, in Sophy's distress and perturbation of mind, the latter had clean forgotten it. The arrival of this visitor, pure, sincere, and thoroughly to be relied upon, seemed to her like an intervention of Providence. As more than one of her fellow-creatures had had cause to remark, the very look of Henny Helford in time of trouble was a consolation; but at all times it was very pleasing. She was fair like her friend, but there the resemblance ended; she was not pretty in the ordinary sense of the word; her features were not regular enough to conform to any standard of good looks; she was only winning.

Without the vivacity of Sophy, she had the loveliness which is the result of sympathy with the hopes of others; although not gifted with the large and somewhat vague aspirations which actuate some of her sex in these days, everything had interested her that concerned those she knew. Without being florid she had a fresh complexion, that spoke of health and early hours; and, without being masculine, she was tall and of a noble figure. In a metaphor culled from his books, the Canon used to describe his ward as a duodecimo and her friend as a crown octavo. He even warned the latter that he hoped to see her in another edition—a quarto. It was possible, indeed, that in the fulness of time—Henny's charms would become matronly; but at present she was not a whit too plump. Her binding (to pursue the image) was by no means so brilliant as that of her duodecimo ally. Always sedate in her attire, she was just now still in mourning for her elder brother, who had died some months ago, leaving an orphan child, her constant care, behind him.

"You will be glad to hear 'Stevie' is better," she said after she had kissed her friends.

"The doctor thinks he will get over it, does he?" said Miss Aldred, slyly. She knew that the child had only a maladic incident to childhood—the chickenpox.

"With care," returned the unconscious Henny, "he gives us hopes that the child will be himself again by the end of the week. I should have come before, Sophy, only I waited till the little darling was asleep. But you are late yourself. I expected to see you attired for conquest."

Here Aunt Maria slipped out of the room. She was a consenting party to the little fraud Sophy and she had planned together, but she did not wish to sanction it by her presence while it was being explained to a third party.

"I am afraid you will be disappointed, Henny," said Sophy, with an indifferent smile, or rather attempt at it; "but the fact is, we are not going to the ball."

"Not going to the ball! Not going to the ball?" repeated Henny, in a tone of incredulity. "Why, how comes that?"

To have answered the question as Henny asked it—that is, with exactest truth—would have been difficult indeed. Yet, as generally happens, it would have been better for the person addressed to have spoken the truth and the whole truth. She could not, she well knew, have had a better adviser; nor, from one point of view, a better confidante.

But as our very weaknesses are often a recommendation to the confidence of our fellow-creatures, so a too severely moral nature as often repels it. Sophy gazed in her companion's questioning face with pitiful yearning: girl as she was, she would have given years of her young life to have thrown herself into the other's arms and have sobbed out the whole history of her troubles. But she felt she could no more have shared with her the secret of that wish than she could have proposed to her to smother "Stevie."

"Aunt Maria has a headache," said Sophy, in a tone that had far too much of sorrow for so slight a misfortune.

"What a pity! I am sure it must be bad indeed for you, aunt to inflict such a disappointment on you."

"It is no disappointment," said Sophy, passionately, her feelings for the moment overcoming all considerations of prudence. "I am glad I am not going." The outburst did her good, but even while she gave reins to it, she saw its danger.

"The truth is, Henny"—a phrase which too often preceded the explosion of an especially large "cracker"—"though I

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